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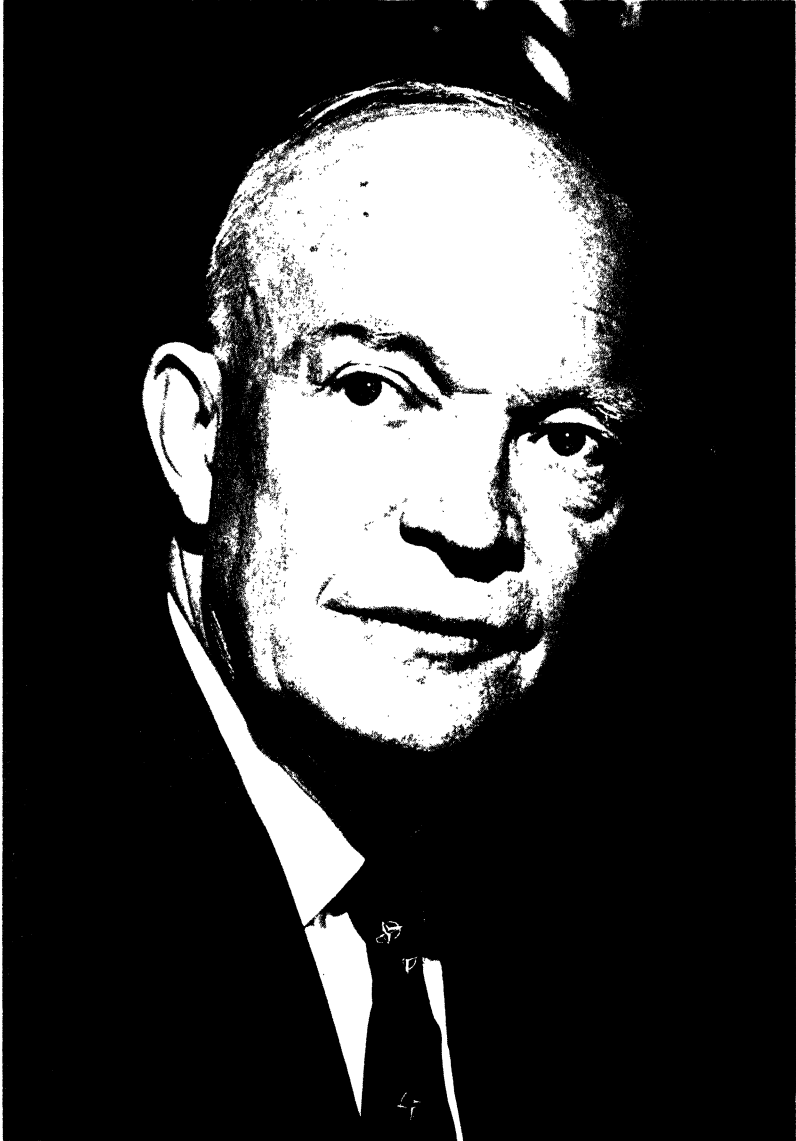
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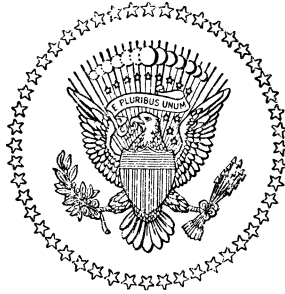
PUBLIC PAPERS OF THE PRESIDENTS
OF THE UNITED STATES



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PUBLIC PAPERS OF THE PRESIDENTS
OF THE UNITED STATES

Dwight D. Eisenhower



1956

*Containing the Public Messages, Speeches, and
Statements of the President*

JANUARY 1 TO DECEMBER 31, 1956

PUBLISHED BY THE
FEDERAL REGISTER DIVISION
NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS SERVICE
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FOREWORD

THERE HAS BEEN a long-felt need for an orderly series of the Public Papers of the Presidents. A reference work of this type can be most helpful to scholars and officials of government, to reporters of current affairs and the events of history.

The general availability of the official text of Presidential documents and messages will serve a broader purpose. As part of the expression of democracy, this series can be a vital factor in the maintenance of our individual freedoms and our institutions of self-government.

I wish success to the editors of this project, and I am sure their work through the years will add strength to the ever-growing traditions of the Republic.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Dwight D. Eisenhower". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent 'D' at the beginning and a long, sweeping underline.

PREFACE

IN THIS VOLUME are gathered most of the public messages and statements of the President of the United States that were released by the White House during the year 1956. A similar volume, covering the year 1957, was published early in 1958 as the first of a series. The President's foreword is reprinted from that volume.

Immediate plans for this series call for the publication of annual volumes soon after the close of each new calendar year, and at the same time undertaking the periodic compilation of volumes covering previous years.

This series was begun in response to a recommendation of the National Historical Publications Commission (44 U. S. C. 393). The Commission's recommendation was incorporated in regulations of the Administrative Committee of the Federal Register issued under section 6 of the Federal Register Act (44 U. S. C. 306). The Committee's regulations, establishing the series, are reprinted at page 1157 as "Appendix D."

The first extensive compilation of the messages and papers of the Presidents was assembled by James D. Richardson and published under Congressional authority between 1896 and 1899. It included Presidential materials from 1789 to 1897. Since then, there have been various private compilations, but no uniform, systematic publication comparable to the *Congressional Record* or the *United States Supreme Court Reports*.

For many years Presidential Proclamations have been published in the *United States Statutes at Large*. The Federal Register Act in 1935 required that Proclamations, Executive Orders, and some other official Executive documents be published in the daily *Federal Register*; but the greater part of Presidential writings

Preface

and utterances still lacked an official medium for either current publication or periodic compilation. Some of them were interspersed through the issues of the *Congressional Record* while others were reported only in the press or were generally available only in mimeographed White House releases. Under these circumstances it was difficult to remember, after a lapse of time, where and in what form even a major pronouncement had been made.

CONTENT AND ARRANGEMENT

The text of this book is based on Presidential materials issued during the calendar year 1956 as White House releases and on transcripts of news conferences. Where available, original source materials have been used to protect against substantive errors in transcription. A list of the White House releases from which final selections were made is published at page 1133 as "Appendix A."

Proclamations, Executive Orders, and similar documents required by law to be published in the *Federal Register* and *Code of Federal Regulations* are not repeated. Instead, they are listed by number and subject under the heading "Appendix B" at page 1150.

The President is required by statute to transmit numerous reports to Congress. Those transmitted during 1956 are listed at page 1155 as "Appendix C."

The items published in this volume are presented in chronological order, rather than being grouped in classes. Most needs for a classified arrangement are met by the subject index. For example, a reader interested in veto messages sent to Congress during 1956 will find them listed in the index under "veto messages."

The dates shown at the end of item headings are White House release dates. In instances where the date of the document differs from the release date that fact is shown in brackets immediately following the heading. Other editorial devices, such as text notes, footnotes, and cross references, have been held to a minimum.

Preface

Remarks or addresses were delivered in Washington, D. C., unless otherwise indicated. Similarly, statements, messages, and letters were issued from the White House in Washington unless otherwise indicated.

The planning and editorial work for this volume were under the direction of David C. Eberhart of the Federal Register Division, assisted by Warren R. Reid and Mildred B. Berry. The index was prepared by Dorothy M. Jacobson. Frank H. Mortimer of the Government Printing Office developed the typography and design.

WAYNE C. GROVER

Archivist of the United States

FRANKLIN FLOETE

Administrator of General Services

December 18, 1958

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1 ¶ Telegram to Basil O'Connor, President, the
National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis.

January 3, 1956

[Released January 3, 1956. Dated December 30, 1955]

THE PAST YEAR has been an historic one in the battle against poliomyelitis. We now have a new and important weapon, the Salk vaccine. But the fight against polio is not yet won. In the past year, despite the protection afforded millions of children, tens of thousands of newly-stricken testify that total protection is not yet a reality.

Help must continue to provide for many thousands of polio victims. There is need for further research, for expanded professional knowledge, for continued care and rehabilitation. I am confident that the American people, by supporting The National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis and the March of Dimes, will help to meet these needs and hasten the arrival of the day when polio will be virtually eliminated from the earth.

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

NOTE: This telegram was released at Key West, Fla.

2 ¶ Annual Message to the Congress on the State
of the Union. *January 5, 1956*

[Read before a joint session by a clerk of the House of Representatives]

To the Congress of the United States:

The opening of this new year must arouse in us all grateful thanks to a kind Providence whose protection has been ever present and whose bounty has been manifold and abundant. The State of the Union today demonstrates what can be accom-

plished under God by a free people; by their vision, their understanding of national problems, their initiative, their self-reliance, their capacity for work—and by their willingness to sacrifice whenever sacrifice is needed.

In the past three years, responding to what our people want their Government to do, the Congress and the Executive have done much in building a stronger, better America. There has been broad progress in fostering the energies of our people, in providing greater opportunity for the satisfaction of their needs, and in fulfilling their demands for the strength and security of the Republic.

Our country is at peace. Our security posture commands respect. A spiritual vigor marks our national life. Our economy, approaching the 400 billion dollar mark, is at an unparalleled level of prosperity. The national income is more widely and fairly distributed than ever before. The number of Americans at work has reached an all-time high. As a people, we are achieving ever higher standards of living—earning more, producing more, consuming more, building more and investing more than ever before.

Virtually all sectors of our society are sharing in these good times. Our farm families, if we act wisely, imaginatively and promptly to strengthen our present farm programs, can also look forward to sharing equitably in the prosperity they have helped to create.

War in Korea ended two and a half years ago. The collective security system has been powerfully strengthened. Our defenses have been reinforced at sharply reduced costs. Programs to expand world trade and to harness the atom for the betterment of mankind have been carried forward. Our economy has been freed from governmental wage and price controls. Inflation has been halted; the cost of living stabilized.

Government spending has been cut by more than ten billion dollars. Nearly three hundred thousand positions have been eliminated from the Federal payroll. Taxes have been substan-

tially reduced. A balanced budget is in prospect. Social security has been extended to ten million more Americans and unemployment insurance to four million more. Unprecedented advances in civil rights have been made. The long-standing and deep-seated problems of agriculture have been forthrightly attacked.

This record of progress has been accomplished with a self-imposed caution against unnecessary and unwise interference in the private affairs of our people, of their communities and of the several States.

If we of the Executive and Legislative Branches, keeping this caution ever in mind, address ourselves to the business of the year before us—and to the unfinished business of last year—with resolution, the outlook is bright with promise.

Many measures of great national importance recommended last year to the Congress still demand immediate attention—legislation for school and highway construction; health and immigration legislation; water resources legislation; legislation to complete the implementation of our foreign economic policy; such labor legislation as amendments of the Labor-Management Relations Act, extension of the Fair Labor Standards Act to additional groups not now covered, and occupational safety legislation; and legislation for construction of an atomic-powered exhibit vessel.

Many new items of business likewise require our attention—measures that will further promote the release of the energies of our people; that will broaden opportunity for all of them; that will advance the Republic in its leadership toward a just peace; measures, in short, that are essential to the building of an ever-stronger, ever-better America.

Every political and economic guide supports a valid confidence that wise effort will be rewarded by an even more plentiful harvest of human benefit than we now enjoy. Our resources are too many, our principles too dynamic, our purposes too worthy and the issues at stake too immense for us to entertain doubt or

fear. But our responsibilities require that we approach this year's business with a sober humility.

A heedless pride in our present strength and position would blind us to the facts of the past, to the pitfalls of the future. We must walk ever in the knowledge that we are enriched by a heritage earned in the labor and sacrifice of our forebears; that, for our children's children, we are trustees of a great Republic and a time-tested political system; that we prosper as a cooperating member of the family of nations.

In this light the Administration has continued work on its program for the Republic, begun three years ago. Because the vast spread of national and human interests is involved within it, I shall not in this Message attempt its detailed delineation. Instead, from time to time during this Session, there will be submitted to the Congress specific recommendations within specific fields. In the comprehensive survey required for their preparation, the Administration is guided by enduring objectives. The first is:

THE DISCHARGE OF OUR WORLD RESPONSIBILITY

Our world policy and our actions are dedicated to the achievement of peace with justice for all nations.

With this purpose, we move in a wide variety of ways and through many agencies to remove the pall of fear; to strengthen the ties with our partners and to improve the cooperative cohesion of the free world; to reduce the burden of armaments, and to stimulate and inspire action among all nations for a world of justice and prosperity and peace. These national objectives are fully supported by both our political parties.

In the past year, our search for a more stable and just peace has taken varied forms. Among the most important were the two Conferences at Geneva, in July and in the fall of last year. We explored the possibilities of agreement on critical issues that jeopardize the peace.

The July meeting of Heads of Government held out promise

to the world of moderation in the bitterness, of word and action, which tends to generate conflict and war. All were in agreement that a nuclear war would be an intolerable disaster which must not be permitted to occur. But in October, when the Foreign Ministers met again, the results demonstrated conclusively that the Soviet leaders are not yet willing to create the indispensable conditions for a secure and lasting peace.

Nevertheless, it is clear that the conflict between international communism and freedom has taken on a new complexion.

We know the Communist leaders have often practiced the tactics of retreat and zigzag. We know that Soviet and Chinese communism still poses a serious threat to the free world. And in the Middle East recent Soviet moves are hardly compatible with the reduction of international tension.

Yet Communist tactics against the free nations have shifted in emphasis from reliance on violence and the threat of violence to reliance on division, enticement and duplicity. We must be well prepared to meet the current tactics which pose a dangerous though less obvious threat. At the same time, our policy must be dynamic as well as flexible, designed primarily to forward the achievement of our own objectives rather than to meet each shift and change on the Communist front. We must act in the firm assurance that the fruits of freedom are more attractive and desirable to mankind in the pursuit of happiness than the record of Communism.

In the face of Communist military power, we must, of course, continue to maintain an effective system of collective security. This involves two things—a system which gives clear warning that armed aggression will be met by joint action of the free nations, and deterrent military power to make that warning effective. Moreover, the awesome power of the atom must be made to serve as a guardian of the free community and of the peace.

In the last year, the free world has seen major gains for the system of collective security: the accession to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and Western European Union of the sov-

oreign Federal German Republic; the developing cooperation under the Southeast Asia Collective Defense Treaty; and the formation in the Middle East of the Baghdad Pact among Turkey, Iraq, Iran, Pakistan and the United Kingdom. In our own hemisphere, the inter-American system has continued to show its vitality in maintaining peace and a common approach to world problems. We now have security pacts with more than 40 other nations.

In the pursuit of our national purposes, we have been steadfast in our support of the United Nations, now entering its second decade with a wider membership and ever-increasing influence and usefulness. In the release of our fifteen fliers from Communist China, an essential prelude was the world opinion mobilized by the General Assembly, which condemned their imprisonment and demanded their liberation. The successful Atomic Energy Conference held in Geneva under United Nations auspices and our Atoms for Peace program have been practical steps toward the world-wide use of this new energy source. Our sponsorship of such use has benefited our relations with other countries. Active negotiations are now in progress to create an International Agency to foster peaceful uses of atomic energy.

During the past year the crucial problem of disarmament has moved to the forefront of practical political endeavor. At Geneva, I declared the readiness of the United States to exchange blueprints of the military establishments of our nation and the USSR, to be confirmed by reciprocal aerial reconnaissance. By this means, I felt mutual suspicions could be allayed and an atmosphere developed in which negotiations looking toward limitation of arms would have improved chances of success.

In the United Nations Subcommittee on Disarmament last fall, this proposal was explored and the United States also declared itself willing to include reciprocal ground inspection of key points. By the overwhelming vote of 56 to 7, the United Nations on December 16 endorsed these proposals and gave them

a top priority. Thereby, the issue is placed squarely before the bar of world opinion. We shall persevere in seeking a general reduction of armaments under effective inspection and control which are essential safeguards to ensure reciprocity and protect the security of all.

In the coming year much remains to be done.

While maintaining our military deterrent, we must intensify our efforts to achieve a just peace. In Asia we shall continue to give help to nations struggling to maintain their freedom against the threat of Communist coercion or subversion. In Europe we shall endeavor to increase not only the military strength of the North Atlantic Alliance but also its political cohesion and unity of purpose. We shall give such assistance as is feasible to the recently renewed effort of Western European nations to achieve a greater measure of integration, such as in the field of peaceful uses of atomic energy.

In the Near East we shall spare no effort in seeking to promote a fair solution of the tragic dispute between the Arab States and Israel, all of whom we want as our friends. The United States is ready to do its part to assure enduring peace in that area. We hope that both sides will make the contributions necessary to achieve that purpose. In Latin America, we shall continue to cooperate vigorously in trade and other measures designed to assist economic progress in the area.

Strong economic ties are an essential element in our free world partnership. Increasing trade and investment help all of us prosper together. Gratifying progress has been made in this direction, most recently by the three-year extension of our trade agreements legislation.

I most earnestly request that the Congress approve our membership in the Organization for Trade Cooperation, which would assist the carrying out of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade to which we have been a party since 1948. Our membership in the OTC will provide the most effective and expeditious means for removing discriminations and restrictions against

American exports and in making our trade agreements truly reciprocal. United States membership in the Organization will evidence our continuing desire to cooperate in promoting an expanded trade among the free nations. Thus the Organization, as proposed, is admirably suited to our own interests and to those of like-minded nations in working for steady expansion of trade and closer economic cooperation. Being strictly an administrative entity, the Organization for Trade Cooperation cannot, of course, alter the control by Congress of the tariff, import, and customs policies of the United States.

We need to encourage investment overseas by avoiding unfair tax duplications, and to foster foreign trade by further simplification and improvement of our customs legislation.

We must sustain and fortify our Mutual Security Program. Because the conditions of poverty and unrest in less developed areas make their people a special target of international communism, there is a need to help them achieve the economic growth and stability necessary to preserve their independence against communist threats and enticements.

In order that our friends may better achieve the greater strength that is our common goal, they need assurance of continuity in economic assistance for development projects and programs which we approve and which require a period of years for planning and completion. Accordingly, I ask Congress to grant limited authority to make longer-term commitments for assistance to such projects, to be fulfilled from appropriations to be made in future fiscal years.

These various steps will powerfully strengthen the economic foundation of our foreign policy. Together with constructive action abroad, they will maintain the present momentum toward general economic progress and vitality of the free world.

In all things, change is the inexorable law of life. In much of the world the ferment of change is working strongly; but grave injustices are still uncorrected. We must not, by any sanction of ours, help to perpetuate these wrongs. I have particularly in

mind the oppressive division of the German people, the bondage of millions elsewhere, and the exclusion of Japan from United Nations membership.

We shall keep these injustices in the forefront of human consciousness and seek to maintain the pressure of world opinion to right these vast wrongs in the interest both of justice and secure peace.

Injustice thrives on ignorance. Because an understanding of the truth about America is one of our most powerful forces, I am recommending a substantial increase in budgetary support of the United States Information Agency.

The sum of our international effort should be this: the waging of peace, with as much resourcefulness, with as great a sense of dedication and urgency, as we have ever mustered in defense of our country in time of war. In this effort, our weapon is not force. Our weapons are the principles and ideas embodied in our historic traditions, applied with the same vigor that in the past made America a living promise of freedom for all mankind.

To accomplish these vital tasks, all of us should be concerned with the strength, effectiveness and morale of our State Department and our Foreign Service.

Another guide in the preparation of the Administration's program is:

THE CONSTANT IMPROVEMENT OF OUR NATIONAL SECURITY

Because peace is the keystone of our national policy, our defense program emphasizes an effective flexible type of power calculated to deter or repulse any aggression and to preserve the peace. Short of war, we have never had military strength better adapted to our needs with improved readiness for emergency use. The maintenance of this strong military capability for the indefinite future will continue to call for a large share of our national budget. Our military programs must meet the needs of today. To build less would expose the nation to aggression. To build excessively, under the influence of fear, could defeat our

purposes and impair or destroy the very freedom and economic system our military defenses are designed to protect.

We have improved the effectiveness and combat readiness of our forces by developing and making operational new weapons and by integrating the latest scientific developments, including new atomic weapons, into our military plans. We continue to push the production of the most modern military aircraft. The development of long-range missiles has been on an accelerated basis for some time. We are moving as rapidly as practicable toward nuclear-powered aircraft and ships. Combat capability, especially in terms of firepower, has been substantially increased. We have made the adjustments in personnel permitted by the cessation of the Korean War, the buildup of our allies and the introduction of new weapons. The services are all planning realistically on a long-term basis.

To strengthen our continental defenses the United States and Canada, in the closest cooperation, have substantially augmented early warning networks. Great progress is being made in extending surveillance of the Arctic, the Atlantic and the Pacific approaches to North America.

In the last analysis our real strength lies in the caliber of the men and women in our Armed Forces, active and Reserve. Much has been done to attract and hold capable military personnel, but more needs to be done. This year, I renew my request of last year for legislation to provide proper medical care for military dependents and a more equitable survivors' benefit program. The Administration will prepare additional recommendations designed to achieve the same objectives, including career incentives for medical and dental officers and nurses, and increases in the proportion of regular officers.

Closely related to the mission of the Defense Department is the task of the Federal Civil Defense Administration. A particular point of relationship arises from the fact that the key to civil defense is the expanded continental defense program, including the distant early warning system. Our Federal civil defense

authorities have made progress in their program, and now comprehensive studies are being conducted jointly by the Federal Civil Defense Administration, the States, and critical target cities to determine the best procedures that can be adopted in case of an atomic attack. We must strengthen Federal assistance to the States and cities in devising the most effective common defense.

We have a broad and diversified mobilization base. We have the facilities, materials, skills and knowledge rapidly to expand the production of things we need for our defense whenever they are required. But mobilization base requirements change with changing technology and strategy. We must maintain flexibility to meet new requirements. I am requesting, therefore, that the Congress once again extend the Defense Production Act.

Of great importance to our nation's security is a continuing alertness to internal subversive activity within or without our government. This Administration will not relax its efforts to deal forthrightly and vigorously in protection of this government and its citizens against subversion, at the same time fully protecting the constitutional rights of all citizens.

A third objective of the Administration is:

FISCAL INTEGRITY

A public office is, indeed, a public trust. None of its aspects is more demanding than the proper management of the public finances. I refer now not only to the indispensable virtues of plain honesty and trustworthiness but also to the prudent, effective and conscientious use of tax money. I refer also to the attitude of mind that makes efficient and economical service to the people a watchword in our government.

Over the long term, a balanced budget is a sure index to thrifty management—in a home, in a business or in the Federal Government. When achievement of a balanced budget is for long put off in a business or home, bankruptcy is the result. But in similar circumstances a government resorts to inflation of the money supply. This inevitably results in depreciation of the

value of the money, and an increase in the cost of living. Every investment in personal security is threatened by this process of inflation, and the real values of the people's savings, whether in the form of insurance, bonds, pension and retirement funds or savings accounts are thereby shriveled.

We have made long strides these past three years in bringing our Federal finances under control. The deficit for fiscal year 1953 was almost 9-1/2 billion dollars. Larger deficits seemed certain—deficits which would have depreciated the value of the dollar and pushed the cost of living still higher. But government waste and extravagance were searched out. Nonessential activities were dropped. Government expenses were carefully scrutinized. Total spending was cut by 14 billion dollars below the amount planned by the previous Administration for the fiscal year 1954.

This made possible—and it was appropriate in the existing circumstances of transition to a peacetime economy—the largest tax cut in any year in our history. Almost 7-1/2 billion dollars were released and every taxpayer in the country benefited. Almost two-thirds of the savings went directly to individuals. This tax cut also helped to build up the economy, to make jobs in industry and to increase the production of the many things desired to improve the scale of living for the great majority of Americans.

The strong expansion of the economy, coupled with a constant care for efficiency in government operations and an alert guard against waste and duplication, has brought us to a prospective balance between income and expenditure. This is being done while we continue to strengthen our military security.

I expect the budget to be in balance during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1956.

I shall propose a balanced budget for the next fiscal year ending June 30, 1957.

But the balance we are seeking cannot be accomplished without the continuing every-day effort of the Executive and Legislative

Branches to keep expenditures under control. It will also be necessary to continue all of the present excise taxes without any reduction and the corporation income taxes at their present rates for another year beyond next April 1st.

It is unquestionably true that our present tax level is very burdensome and, in the interest of long term and continuous economic growth, should be reduced when we prudently can. It is essential, in the sound management of the Government's finances, that we be mindful of our enormous national debt and of the obligation we have toward future Americans to reduce that debt whenever we can appropriately do so. Under conditions of high peacetime prosperity, such as now exist, we can never justify going further into debt to give ourselves a tax cut at the expense of our children. So, in the present state of our financial affairs, I earnestly believe that a tax cut can be deemed justifiable only when it will not unbalance the budget, a budget which makes provision for some reduction, even though modest, in our national debt. In this way we can best maintain fiscal integrity.

A fourth aim of our program is:

TO FOSTER A STRONG ECONOMY

Our competitive enterprise system depends on the energy of free human beings, limited by prudent restraints in law, using free markets to plan, organize and distribute production, and spurred by the prospect of reward for successful effort. This system has developed our resources. It has marvelously expanded our productive capacity. Against the record of all other economic systems devised through the ages, this competitive system has proved the most creative user of human skills in the development of physical resources, and the richest rewarder of human effort.

This is still true in this era when improved living standards and rising national requirements are accompanied by swift advances in technology and rapid obsolescence in machines and methods. Typical of these are the strides made in construction of plants

to produce electrical energy from atomic power and of laboratories and installations for the application of this new force in industry, agriculture and the healing arts. These developments make it imperative—to assure effective functioning of our enterprise system—that the Federal Government concern itself with certain broad areas of our economic life. Most important of these is:

Agriculture

Our farm people are not sharing as they should in the general prosperity. They alone of all major groups have seen their incomes decline rather than rise. They are caught between two millstones—rising production costs and declining prices. Such harm to a part of the national economy so vitally important to everyone is of great concern to us all. No other resource is so indispensable as the land that feeds and clothes us. No group is more fundamental to our national life than our farmers.

In successful prosecution of the war, the nation called for the utmost effort of its farmers. Their response was superb, their contribution unsurpassed. Farmers are not now to be blamed for the mountainous, price-depressing surpluses produced in response to wartime policies and laws that were too long continued. War markets are not the markets of peacetime. Failure to recognize that basic fact by a timely adjustment of wartime legislation brought its inevitable result in peacetime—surpluses, lower prices and lower incomes for our farmers.

The dimensions of government responsibility are as broad and complex as the farm problem itself. We are here concerned not only with our essential continuing supplies of food and fiber, but also with a way of life. Both are indispensable to the well-being and strength of the nation. Consideration of these matters must be above and beyond politics. Our national farm policy, so vital to the welfare of farm people and all of us, must not become a field for political warfare. Too much is at stake.

Our farm people expect of us, who have responsibility for their

government, understanding of their problems and the will to help solve them. Our objective must be to help bring production into balance with existing and new markets, at prices that yield farmers a return for their work in line with what other Americans get.

To reach this goal, deep-seated problems must be subjected to a stepped-up attack. There is no single easy solution. Rather, there must be a many-sided assault on the stubborn problems of surpluses, prices, costs, and markets; and a steady, persistent, imaginative advance in the relationship between farmers and their government.

In a few days, by special message, I shall lay before the Congress my detailed recommendations for new steps that should be taken promptly to speed the transition in agriculture and thus assist our farmers to achieve their fair share of the national income.

Basic to this program will be a new attack on the surplus problem—for even the best-conceived farm program cannot work under a multi-billion dollar weight of accumulated stocks.

I shall urge authorization of a soil bank program to alleviate the problem of diverted acres and an overexpanded agricultural plant. This will include an acreage reserve to reduce current and accumulated surpluses of crops in most serious difficulty, and a conservation reserve to achieve other needed adjustments in the use of agricultural resources. I shall urge measures to strengthen our surplus disposal activities.

I shall propose measures to strengthen individual commodity programs, to remove controls where possible, to reduce carryovers, and to stop further accumulations of surpluses. I shall ask the Congress to provide substantial new funds for an expanded drive on the research front, to develop new markets, new crops, and new uses. The Rural Development Program to better the lot of low-income farm families deserves full Congressional support. The Great Plains Program must go forward vigorously. Advances on these and other fronts will pull down the price-depressing surpluses and raise farm income.

In this time of testing in agriculture, we should all together, regardless of party, carry forward resolutely with a sound and forward looking program on which farm people may confidently depend, now and for years to come.

I shall briefly mention four other subjects directly related to the well-being of the economy, preliminary to their fuller discussion in the Economic Report and later communications.

Resources Conservation

I wish to re-emphasize the critical importance of the wise use and conservation of our great natural resources of land, forests, minerals and water and their long-range development consistent with our agricultural policy. Water in particular now plays an increasing role in industrial processes, in the irrigation of land, in electric power, as well as in domestic uses. At the same time, it has the potential of damage and disaster.

A comprehensive legislative program for water conservation will be submitted to the Congress during the Session. The development of our water resources cannot be accomplished overnight. The need is such that we must make faster progress and without delay. Therefore, I strongly recommend that action be taken at this Session on such wholly Federal projects as the Colorado River Storage Project and the Fryingpan-Arkansas Project; on the John Day partnership project, and other projects which provide for cooperative action between the Federal Government and non-Federal interests; and on legislation, which makes provision for Federal participation in small projects under the primary sponsorship of agencies of State and local government.

During the past year the areas of our National Parks have been expanded, and new wildlife refuges have been created. The visits of our people to the Parks have increased much more rapidly than have the facilities to care for them. The Administration will submit recommendations to provide more adequate

facilities to keep abreast of the increasing interest of our people in the great outdoors.

Disaster Assistance

A modern community is a complex combination of skills, specialized buildings, machines, communications and homes. Most importantly, it involves human lives. Disaster in many forms—by flood, frost, high winds, for instance—can destroy on a massive scale in a few hours the labor of many years.

Through the past three years the Administration has repeatedly moved into action wherever disaster struck. The extent of State participation in relief activities, however, has been far from uniform and, in many cases, has been either inadequate or non-existent. Disaster assistance legislation requires overhauling and an experimental program of flood-damage indemnities should be undertaken. The Administration will make detailed recommendations on these subjects.

Area Redevelopment

We must help deal with the pockets of chronic unemployment that here and there mar the nation's general industrial prosperity. Economic changes in recent years have been often so rapid and far-reaching that areas committed to a single local resource or industrial activity have found themselves temporarily deprived of their markets and their livelihood.

Such conditions mean severe hardship for thousands of people as the slow process of adaptation to new circumstances goes on. This process can be speeded up. Last year I authorized a major study of the problem to find additional steps to supplement existing programs for the redevelopment of areas of chronic unemployment. Recommendations will be submitted, designed to supplement, with Federal technical and loan assistance local efforts to get on with this vital job. Improving such communities must, of course, remain the primary responsibility of the people living there and of their States. But a soundly conceived Federal

partnership program can be of real assistance to them in their efforts.

Highway Legislation

Legislation to provide a modern, interstate highway system is even more urgent this year than last, for 12 months have now passed in which we have fallen further behind in road construction needed for the personal safety, the general prosperity, the national security of the American people. During the year, the number of motor vehicles has increased from 58 to 61 million. During the past year over 38,000 persons lost their lives in highway accidents, while the fearful toll of injuries and property damage has gone on unabated.

In my message of February 22, 1955, I urged that measures be taken to complete the vital 40,000 mile interstate system over a period of 10 years at an estimated Federal cost of approximately 25 billion dollars. No program was adopted.

If we are ever to solve our mounting traffic problem, the whole interstate system must be authorized as one project, to be completed approximately within the specified time. Only in this way can industry efficiently gear itself to the job ahead. Only in this way can the required planning and engineering be accomplished without the confusion and waste unavoidable in a piecemeal approach. Furthermore, as I pointed out last year, the pressing nature of this problem must not lead us to solutions outside the bounds of sound fiscal management. As in the case of other pressing problems, there must be an adequate plan of financing. To continue the drastically needed improvement in other national highway systems, I recommend the continuation of the Federal Aid Highway Program.

Aside from agriculture and the four subjects specifically mentioned, an integral part of our efforts to foster a strong and expanding free economy is keeping open the door of opportunity to new and small enterprises, checking monopoly, and preserving a competitive environment. In this past year the steady improve-

ment in the economic health of small business has reinforced the vitality of our competitive economy. We shall continue to help small business concerns to obtain access to adequate financing and to competent counsel on management, production, and marketing problems.

Through measures already taken, opportunities for small-business participation in government procurement programs, including military procurement, are greatly improved. The effectiveness of these measures will become increasingly apparent. We shall continue to make certain that small business has a fair opportunity to compete and has an economic environment in which it may prosper.

In my message last year I referred to the appointment of an advisory committee to appraise and report to me on the deficiencies as well as the effectiveness of existing Federal transportation policies. I have commended the fundamental purposes and objectives of the committee's report. I earnestly recommend that the Congress give prompt attention to the committee's proposals.

Essential to a prosperous economic environment for all business, small and large—for agriculture and industry and commerce—is efficiency in Government. To that end, exhaustive studies of the entire governmental structure were made by the Commission on Intergovernmental Relations and the Commission on the Organization of the Executive Branch of the Government—the reports of these Commissions are now under intensive review and already in the process of implementation in important areas.

One specific and most vital governmental function merits study and action by the Congress. As part of our program of promoting efficiency in Government and getting the fiscal situation in hand, the Post Office Department in the past three years has been overhauled. Nearly one thousand new post offices have been provided. Financial practices have been modernized, and transportation and operating methods are being constantly

improved. A new wage and incentive plan for the half million postal employees has been established. Never before has the postal system handled so much mail so quickly and so economically.

The Post Office Department faces two serious problems. First, much of its physical plant—post offices and other buildings—is obsolete and inadequate. Many new buildings and the modernization of present ones are essential if we are to have improved mail service. The second problem is the Department's fiscal plight. It now faces an annual deficit of one-half billion dollars.

Recommendations on postal facilities and on additional postal revenues will be submitted to the Congress.

A final consideration in our program planning is:

THE RESPONSE TO HUMAN CONCERNS

A fundamental belief shines forth in this Republic. We believe in the worth and dignity of the individual. We know that if we are to govern ourselves wisely—in the tradition of America—we must have the opportunity to develop our individual capacities to the utmost.

To fulfill the individual's aspirations in the American way of life, good education is fundamental. Good education is the outgrowth of good homes, good communities, good churches, and good schools. Today our schools face pressing problems—problems which will not yield to swift and easy solutions, or to any single action. They will yield only to a continuing, active, informed effort by the people toward achieving better schools.

This kind of effort has been spurred by the thousands of conferences held in recent months by half a million citizens and educators in all parts of the country, culminating in the White House Conference on Education. In that Conference, some two thousand delegates, broadly representative of the nation, studied together the problems of the nation's schools.

They concluded that the people of the United States must

make a greater effort through their local, State, and Federal Governments to improve the education of our youth. This expression from the people must now be translated into action at all levels of government.

So far as the Federal share of responsibility is concerned, I urge that the Congress move promptly to enact an effective program of Federal assistance to help erase the existing deficit of school classrooms. Such a program, which should be limited to a five-year period, must operate to increase rather than decrease local and State support of schools and to give the greatest help to the States and localities with the least financial resources. Federal aid should in no way jeopardize the freedom of local school systems. There will be presented to the Congress a recommended program of Federal assistance for school construction.

Such a program should be accompanied by action to increase services to the nation's schools by the Office of Education and by legislation to provide continuation of payments to school districts where Federal activities have impaired the ability of those districts to provide adequate schools.

Under the 1954 Amendments to the old-age and survivors' insurance program, protection was extended to some 10 million additional workers and benefits were increased. The system now helps protect 9 out of 10 American workers and their families against loss of income in old age or on the death of the breadwinner. The system is sound. It must be kept so. In developing improvements in the system, we must give the most careful consideration to population and social trends, and to fiscal requirements. With these considerations in mind, the Administration will present its recommendations for further expansion of coverage and other steps which can be taken wisely at this time.

Other needs in the area of social welfare include increased child welfare services, extension of the program of aid to dependent children, intensified attack on juvenile delinquency, and special attention to the problems of mentally retarded children.

The training of more skilled workers for these fields and the quest for new knowledge through research in social welfare are essential. Similarly the problems of our aged people need our attention.

The nation has made dramatic progress in conquering disease—progress of profound human significance which can be greatly accelerated by an intensified effort in medical research. A well-supported, well-balanced program of research, including basic research, can open new frontiers of knowledge, prevent and relieve suffering, and prolong life. Accordingly I shall recommend a substantial increase in Federal funds for the support of such a program. As an integral part of this effort, I shall recommend a new plan to aid construction of non-Federal medical research and teaching facilities and to help provide more adequate support for the training of medical research manpower.

Finally, we must aid in cushioning the heavy and rising costs of illness and hospitalization to individuals and families. Provision should be made, by Federal reinsurance or otherwise, to foster extension of voluntary health insurance coverage to many more persons, especially older persons and those in rural areas. Plans should be evolved to improve protection against the costs of prolonged or severe illness. These measures will help reduce the dollar barrier between many Americans and the benefits of modern medical care.

The Administration health program will be submitted to the Congress in detail.

The response of government to human concerns embraces, of course, other measures of broad public interest, and of special interest to our working men and women. The need still exists for improvement of the Labor Management Relations Act. The recommendations I submitted to the Congress last year take into account not only the interests of labor and management but also the public welfare. The needed amendments should be enacted without further delay.

We must also carry forward the job of improving the wage-

hour law. Last year I requested the Congress to broaden the coverage of the minimum wage. I repeat that recommendation, and I pledge the full resources of the Executive Branch to assist the Congress in finding ways to attain this goal. Moreover, as requested last year, legislation should be passed to clarify and strengthen the eight-hour laws for the benefit of workers who are subject to Federal wage standards on Federal and Federally-assisted construction and other public works.

The Administration will shortly propose legislation to assure adequate disclosure of the financial affairs of each employee pension and welfare plan and to afford substantial protection to their beneficiaries in accordance with the objectives outlined in my message of January 11, 1954. Occupational safety still demands attention, as I pointed out last year, and legislation to improve the Longshoremen's and Harbor Workers' Compensation Act is still needed. The improvement of the District of Columbia Unemployment Insurance Law and legislation to provide employees in the District with non-occupational disability insurance are no less necessary now than 12 months ago. Legislation to apply the principle of equal pay for equal work without discrimination because of sex is a matter of simple justice. I earnestly urge the Congress to move swiftly to implement these needed labor measures.

In the field of human needs, we must carry forward the housing program, which is contributing so greatly to the well-being of our people and the prosperity of our economy. Home ownership is now advanced to the point where almost three of every five families in our cities, towns, and suburbs own the houses they live in.

For the housing program, most of the legislative authority already exists. However, a firm program of public housing is essential until the private building industry has found ways to provide more adequate housing for low-income families. The Administration will propose authority to contract for 35 thousand additional public housing units in each of the next 2 fiscal years

for communities which will participate in an integrated attack on slums and blight.

To meet the needs of the growing number of older people, several amendments to the National Housing Act will be proposed to assist the private homebuilding industry as well as charitable and non-profit organizations.

With so large a number of the American people desiring to modernize and improve existing dwellings, I recommend that the Title I program for permanent improvements in the home be liberalized.

I recommend increases in the general FHA mortgage insurance authority; the extension of the FHA military housing program; an increase in the authorization for Urban Planning grants; in the special assistance authority of the Federal National Mortgage Association; and continued support of the college housing program in a way that will not discourage private capital from helping to meet the needs of our colleges.

The legislation I have recommended for workers in private industry should be accompanied by a parallel effort for the welfare of Government employees. We have accomplished much in this field, including a contributory life insurance program; equitable pay increases and a fringe benefits program, covering many needed personnel policy changes, from improved premium pay to a meaningful incentive award program.

Additional personnel management legislation is needed in this Session. As I stated last year, an executive pay increase is essential to efficient governmental management. Such an increase, together with needed adjustments in the pay for the top career positions, is also necessary to the equitable completion of the Federal pay program initiated last year. Other legislation will be proposed, including legislation for prepaid group health insurance for employees and their dependents and to effect major improvements in the Civil Service retirement system.

All of us share a continuing concern for those who have served this nation in the Armed Forces. The Commission on Veterans

Pensions is at this time conducting a study of the entire field of veterans' benefits and will soon submit proposed improvements.

We are proud of the progress our people have made in the field of civil rights. In Executive Branch operations throughout the nation, elimination of discrimination and segregation is all but completed. Progress is also being made among contractors engaged in furnishing Government services and requirements. Every citizen now has the opportunity to fit himself for and to hold a position of responsibility in the service of his country. In the District of Columbia, through the voluntary cooperation of the people, discrimination and segregation are disappearing from hotels, theaters, restaurants and other facilities.

It is disturbing that in some localities allegations persist that Negro citizens are being deprived of their right to vote and are likewise being subjected to unwarranted economic pressures. I recommend that the substance of these charges be thoroughly examined by a Bipartisan Commission created by the Congress. It is hoped that such a commission will be established promptly so that it may arrive at findings which can receive early consideration.

The stature of our leadership in the free world has increased through the past three years because we have made more progress than ever before in a similar period to assure our citizens equality in justice, in opportunity and in civil rights. We must expand this effort on every front. We must strive to have every person judged and measured by what he is, rather than by his color, race or religion. There will soon be recommended to the Congress a program further to advance the efforts of the Government, within the area of Federal responsibility, to accomplish these objectives.

One particular challenge confronts us. In the Hawaiian Islands, East meets West. To the Islands, Asia and Europe and the Western Hemisphere, all the continents, have contributed their peoples and their cultures to display a unique example

of a community that is a successful laboratory in human brotherhood.

Statehood, supported by the repeatedly expressed desire of the Islands' people and by our traditions, would be a shining example of the American way to the entire earth. Consequently, I urgently request this Congress to grant statehood for Hawaii. Also, in harmony with the provisions I last year communicated to the Senate and House Committees on Interior and Insular Affairs, I trust that progress toward statehood for Alaska can be made in this Session.

Progress is constant toward full integration of our Indian citizens into normal community life. During the past two years the Administration has provided school facilities for thousands of Indian children previously denied this opportunity. We must continue to meet the needs of increased numbers of Indian children. Provision should also be made for the education of adult Indians whose schooling in earlier years was neglected.

In keeping with our responsibility of world leadership and in our own self interest, I again point out to the Congress the urgent need for revision of the immigration and nationality laws. Our nation has always welcomed immigrants to our shores. The wisdom of such a policy is clearly shown by the fact that America has been built by immigrants and the descendants of immigrants. That policy must be continued realistically with present day conditions in mind.

I recommend that the number of persons admitted to this country annually be based not on the 1920 census but on the latest, the 1950 census. Provision should be made to allow for greater flexibility in the use of quotas so if one country does not use its share, the vacancies may be made available for the use of qualified individuals from other countries.

The law should be amended to permit the Secretary of State and the Attorney General to waive the requirements of fingerprinting on a reciprocal basis for persons coming to this country for temporary visits. This and other changes in the law are long

overdue and should be taken care of promptly. Detailed recommendations for revision of the immigration laws will be submitted to the Congress.

I am happy to report substantial progress in the flow of immigrants under the Refugee Relief Act of 1953; however, I again request this Congress to approve without further delay the urgently needed amendments to that act which I submitted in the last Session. Because of the high prosperity in Germany and Austria, the number of immigrants from those countries will be reduced. This will make available thousands of unfilled openings which I recommend be distributed to Greece and Italy and to escapees from behind the Iron Curtain.

Once again I ask the Congress to join with me in demonstrating our belief in the right of suffrage. I renew my request that the principle of self-government be extended and the right of suffrage granted to the citizens of the District of Columbia.

To conclude: the vista before us is bright. The march of science, the expanding economy, the advance in collective security toward a just peace—in this threefold movement our people are creating new standards by which the future of the Republic may be judged.

Progress, however, will be realized only as it is more than matched by a continuing growth in the spiritual strength of the nation. Our dedication to moral values must be complete in our dealings abroad and in our relationships among ourselves. We have single-minded devotion to the common good of America. Never must we forget that this means the well-being, the prosperity, the security of all Americans in every walk of life.

To the attainment of these objectives, I pledge full energies of the Administration, as in the Session ahead, it works on a program for submission to you, the Congress of the United States.

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

NOTE: The President signed and transmitted this document to the Senate and the House of Representatives from Key West, Fla. (H. Doc. 241, 84th Cong., 2d sess.).

3 ¶ Remarks on the State of the Union Message,
Key West, Florida. *January 5, 1956*

[Recorded on film and tape and broadcast the same day]

My Fellow Citizens:

This morning I sent to the Congress my third annual message on the State of the Union. It is a long document and contains a review of the accomplishments of the past three years, as well as many recommendations for the further advancement of our country in the years to come.

Now those things that have been accomplished are important, and one of the chief ingredients in the achievements we have made is the cooperation that has existed between the Congress and the Executive Department in the Federal Government. Some of those results I will enumerate only briefly.

The first is the fact that we are at peace. The peace is not always the kind that we should like, one in which we have complete confidence, but still there is no shooting war. We have the best security posture we have ever had during years of peace.

Government spending has been cut more than ten billion dollars annually.

Taxes have been reduced. Taxes were reduced at a time when we were passing from a war to a peace economy, and the great tax reduction of that year was made so as to stimulate peacetime activity to take the place of the former wartime production.

The national economy, in the general picture, is in very splendid shape. The national income is at an all-time high, with the highest standards of living we have ever enjoyed.

The products of our great industrial plant are more widely distributed—and the profits from it. More people are working.

The only two things in this economic picture that seem to need immediate and drastic attention are, first, the depressed areas

where peacetime activity has not caught up with past wartime activity, and the other is in the farm community where there is, of course, a serious problem existing.

Now, to mention only a very few of the recommendations that the message makes to the Congress, I want to point out that, first, we are governed by five major objectives.

The first of these is the discharge of our world responsibility. In discharging that responsibility we seek, first, a peace for all nations, well knowing that no nation can have peace by itself.

We of course must be very careful in watching the tactics of the communists. At times they smile, and at times they seem to threaten. Our own purpose is to remain steadfast in the pursuit of a world peace based on justice and not to be hysterical under their threats or to be beguiled too much by their smiles.

We intend to continue strengthening our allies, and we intend to continue the honest search for disarmament. We will not be satisfied with anything in the disarmament line, though, that is not mutual and a system in which we can have confidence.

We of course seek the constant improvement of our national security through the improvement and development of the most modern of weapons, through the saving of men; and as I said before, we have the highest level of national security we have ever had in this line.

Defense arrangements include not only our allies but our own continental defenses, and the power to strike where need be.

The next objective is to maintain the fiscal integrity of the government. This means that we must balance our budget. I have every expectation that June 30, 1956, will show a balanced budget for this fiscal year. Moreover, the Budget that I am sending to Congress will contemplate a balancing of the Budget also in 1957. All of this has been done without reduction of the security arrangements, or in the sums devoted to mutual aid throughout the world.

In this connection, I should mention our enormous national debt. We must begin to make some payments on it if we are to

avoid passing on to our children an impossible burden of debt. And we will not talk about any reductions of any other kind until we have begun to make some modest payments on that.

The fourth objective of the program that we are submitting to the Congress is to foster an ever-expanding economy. I have already mentioned those directions in which we are achieving new standards in our productivity. But I also mentioned that we are behind in one or two phases of the economy, and the most important of these is agriculture.

I am sending a Special Message on this subject to the Congress on Monday next. It will contain many new proposals for expanding the program under which we have been operating in the agricultural field.

Particularly, new points will be the establishment of a soil bank which will help remove acreage from production and on a basis that will be of assistance to the farmers immediately.

We are going to help remove more controls from the farmer. We are going to go into a program of expanded research into the rural development program, to help low-income farmers, and there will be a new Great Plains program.

In this same field there will be new highway legislation proposed, and new plans for resources conservation, and protection against disasters in flooded and other areas. There will be an area development plan to assist those regions which are backward in their economy because of failure to make necessary changes in recent years.

Now there is one other field—and that is another principal objective—and that is a program that is designed to respond to human needs throughout the nation. These include school construction, Old Age and Survivors Insurance, medical research, health re-insurance; Labor laws for expanding the minimum wage laws and for correcting certain deficiencies in the wage-hour law; for Housing, including a two-year program for public housing; and for immigration revision.

Now these are just a few of the items that are in the Message. You will see in your daily newspapers, if you care to look, a great detailed explanation of the things to which I am so hurriedly referring. But I do pledge the Administration to this:

We are going to foster the march of science in helping expand our economy and increasing productivity.

We are going to be certain about the security of the United States in this world of today.

We are going to continue to seek a just peace. And we are going to devote single-minded attention to the common good of America—all its citizens.

Goodnight.

4 ¶ Letter to George A. Garrett Concerning the Redevelopment of Southwest Washington.

January 6, 1956

[Released January 6, 1956. Dated January 1, 1956]

Dear Mr. Garrett:

I am very glad to have your final report concerning the Redevelopment of Southwest Washington. It is indeed heartening to know that the efforts of the agencies cooperating in the project will result in early initiation of construction and in a complete rebuilding of the designated area. Certainly the Capital of this great nation deserves to be a symbol of our best efforts to provide decent housing and attractive urban living.

I should want the cooperating agencies to know, therefore, that in the furtherance of these plans and achievement of the redevelopment benefits that you point out so graphically, they will have earned the lasting gratitude of the people of Washington and, indeed, of the entire nation.

In expediting the redevelopment plans you have made an important contribution. I am very grateful for your devoted efforts in this public service.

Sincerely,

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

NOTE: Mr. Garrett served as the President's representative in the coordination of plans for the redevelopment of Southwest Washington. His report is in the form of a 3-page letter dated Washington, December 21, 1955.

The letter refers to the progress made since the President's request of March 15, 1955, that he undertake to expedite the project, and to the

cooperation of the National Capital Planning Commission, the Washington Real Estate Board, the District Commissioners, the General Services Administration, the Housing and Home Finance Agency, the Redevelopment Land Agency, the National Capital Housing Authority, the Commission of Fine Arts, as well as the newspapers of Washington and other private firms and individuals.

5 ¶ The President's News Conference at Key West, Florida. *January 8, 1956*

THE PRESIDENT. The Press Secretary has told me there has been some curiosity about the sojourn here in Key West and its effect on me. The question seems to be numerous enough that I had the idea that even you people might be slightly interested, so I thought I would come over and tell you about my reactions.

First of all, the doctor tells me that what he calls my vital capacity is very much improved. I don't know the meaning of the term, and so there's no use asking me about it.

But I feel very much better—stronger—and much more able to get about.

The whole experience has been a pleasant one.

You people have experienced, as well as I have, the hospitality of the base and of the people of Key West, both official and unofficial. To all of them I am grateful, as I am sure you are.

On the work side, there have been a number of things that had to be done in the early part of the visit here; of course, the state of the Union talk, and then more recently the detailed program on the farm problem, which remains with us as a very difficult spot in our economy.

What I have liked about the program that will go to Congress tomorrow, just after we all get back to Washington, is its imagination. It approaches the problem in the effort to relieve the economic difficulties of the farm community at present, but it does so with an eye to the future, particularly in the conservation field, in conserving our soil and resources, getting land into the proper kind of crops, instead of into those that bring and pile up our surpluses.

The whole plan is a nine-point program and will attack this problem on a many-sided front and, we believe, represents a very splendid and effective addition to the farm legislation now existing.

Finally, of course, it has been a very splendid period of just sheer recreation for me, and I am going back tomorrow, I think, as ready to go to work as a person could be, after the physical experience I have been through.

Now, while this is far from a general press conference, still if there are any special questions any of you have, I will be glad to certainly consider them and attempt their answer.

Q. Merriman Smith, United Press: Mr. President, are you—will you entertain some questions about your political future?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I think, Mr. Smith, there would be very little reason or very little, you might say, benefit—value—in discussing it this morning, for this reason: all of the considerations that apply to such things are complicated, and it takes not only a thorough studying of each one before you are ready to talk on them, but naturally I will want to confer with some of my most trusted advisers. This particular thing has not been greatly talked about by me with my own people up to date.

Q. Robert E. Clark, International News Service: Mr. Presi-

dent, does that mean, as of this moment, you have not made up your mind as to whether you will run for a second term?

THE PRESIDENT. It means as of this moment I have not made up my mind to make any announcement as of this moment. [*Laughter*]

Q. Robert W. Ruth, U. S. News and World Report: Mr. President, do you consider the Presidency the most physically taxing job you have ever had?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I don't know whether you can give a straight yes or no answer to that, and I'm sorry—but you do have this situation: every problem that you take up has inevitably a terrific meaning for many millions of people, so there is no problem that comes up in the Presidency—even some that appear trivial—that is handled as easily as you would handle your own daily living, or even something in the military, or in other activities in which I have been engaged.

I would say that the Presidency is probably the most taxing job, as far as tiring of the mind and spirit; but it also has, as I have said before, its inspirations which tend to counteract each other.

So I really can't say. There have been times in war where I thought nothing could be quite as wearing and tearing as that with lives directly involved. But I would say, on the whole, this is the most wearing, although not necessarily, as I say, the most tiring.

Q. Larry Burd, Chicago Tribune: Mr. President, some Republican leaders have suggested that if you are able, you might run again out of a sense of duty, and if you feel able and the doctors concur in that, do you feel a sense of duty to run again?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I certainly sincerely trust that all of my actions with respect to public duty over the past 40 years have been inspired and directed by my own sense of duty. So of course that would have something to do with it.

But I really believe that there are factors which I will be ready to talk about publicly at a particular time. I have them all

marshaled in the proper order in my mind. I will be ready to talk about them. And one of them is a sense of duty. But where does the sense of duty point, and who determines what the duty is? That is a very tricky question when you are in this position.

Q. Ray Scherer, National Broadcasting Company: Mr. President, can you suggest when it would be propitious for us to raise these factors and probe for this answer?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I would say this: you really don't need to. As quickly as my own mind is made up, either as to making a statement or as to the proper moment to make a statement, I will tell you people very frankly. I have nothing to hide here. I am certainly not trying to be coy. I just think that it is something that is not settled just in a brief offhand conversation.

Q. Francis M. Stephenson, New York Daily News: Mr. President, I wonder could we expect any statement from you before the middle of February, when the doctors say they will give you the final word?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I wouldn't want to pin myself down to a yes or no there. I will do it as soon as I feel that the whole thing is completely clarified and that I can see where the path of duty is, and as someone pointed out, as well as all other factors should indicate the answer to be.

Q. William H. Lawrence, New York Times: Mr. President, up in Gettysburg, Dr. White said that he wanted you to have this holiday here in the sun with exercise before you resumed the full burden of the Presidency.

THE PRESIDENT. Yes.

Q. Mr. Lawrence: Now, what is your immediate schedule? When you go back Monday, is it a full schedule or is it something that you work into gradually?

THE PRESIDENT. That is a very fair question. I am going back into the full duties of the Presidency tomorrow morning, but I think that it is only fair to make this one statement, that I have done many things in the past because I didn't have that

sense of fatigue, or have any feeling at all I had to care for myself. I lived that way, as most of us do, through my life, and consequently I have done many things that were probably unnecessary. I would say that both my staff and I will scrutinize the problems, but as far as the duties of the Presidency are concerned, I will be in full swing.

As a matter of fact, I have been in fairly close touch with them for a good many weeks now, and been handling them. But now I will be back in the office as per usual.

Q. Marvin Arrowsmith, Associated Press: Mr. President, the last time you met with us, I think on August fourth, you said that the state of your health would be an important factor in making up your mind. In view of what you call your experience, we can assume that that will be an even more important factor now, I suppose?

THE PRESIDENT. That is correct, because—after all—remember this: it is not merely what the doctors say to someone else, or what the doctors say to me. It is a very critical thing to change governments in this country at a time that it is unexpected. We accustom ourselves, and so do foreign countries, changing our government every 4 years. But always something happens that is untoward when a government is changed at other times. It is a rather startling thing. They tell me that there was even some disturbance in the stock market at the time I got sick—I didn't know it till six weeks later—but they told me there was.

Q. Earl Mazo, New York Herald Tribune: Sir, during your stay here, did you and Doctor Eisenhower ever permit your conversation to stray into the region of your political future?

THE PRESIDENT. Of course.

Q. James Deakin, St. Louis Post-Dispatch: Along that same line, you spoke of trusted advisers, in the plural. I wonder if you could tell us who some of those trusted advisers are, and if you have talked with them already, besides Doctor Eisenhower?

THE PRESIDENT. Of course, there have been a few of them here. One of them is sitting here, Mr. Hagerty. And another

one is my brother. There have been others down here. But I was talking about bringing this subject right up to the forefront now and talking about it objectively and intensively. We haven't done that. Apparently they haven't wanted to bother me.

Q. Robert W. Ruth, U. S. News and World Report: Mr. President, recently, Dr. White said that hard work never killed a healthy man. From your observation of life, would you agree with that?

THE PRESIDENT. I have always agreed with that. I believe that hard work is not only a very, very fine thing for most humans but it keeps them healthy. Also, things happen to the human body so that after all maybe the man isn't described fully as healthy, and then there's another calculation to make.

Q. Robert E. Clark, International News Service: Mr. President, I don't want to press this point, but I find myself somewhat confused as to whether you have made up your mind at this time on whether to run for a second term?

THE PRESIDENT. No. My mind at this moment is not fixed. If it were, I would say so right here this second. But my mind is not fixed in such and such an extent that it can't be changed.

Q. Laurence H. Burd, Chicago Tribune: Mr. President, last March you said you thought it would be just about a year. Do you still think that is about the time, early in March? [Laughter]

THE PRESIDENT. Well, you must remember, one morning they asked in a press conference whether I'd talk about it. I said, "You ask me in about a year," and I think I did say *about*, didn't I?

Q. Mr. Burd: Yes.

THE PRESIDENT. I don't think we have to wait for that exact date. We might go past it. You never can tell.

Q. Merriman Smith, United Press: Mr. President, have you approved new H-bomb tests in the Pacific this spring?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I think the announcements as to future tests, not especially of H-bombs but of any kind of atomic action,

should come officially and directly from the Atomic Energy Commission—where they always have come from; and while this matter has been—well, it's up perennially—the fact is that I don't remember exactly when or how they expect to announce it, and when they are to take place. So we had better wait for the official announcement.

Anything else?

Mr. Smith: Thank you, sir.

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I'll be seeing you all in Washington.

NOTE: President Eisenhower's seventy-sixth news conference was held in the lobby of the Bachelor Officers Quarters, U. S. Naval Base, Key

West, Fla., at 9:00 o'clock on Sunday morning, January 8, 1956. The attendance was not recorded.

6 ¶ Special Message to the Congress on Agriculture. *January 9, 1956*

To the Congress of the United States:

In this Session no problem before the Congress demands more urgent attention than the paradox facing our farm families. Although agriculture is our basic industry, they find their prices and incomes depressed amid the nation's greatest prosperity. For five years, their economy has declined. Unless corrected, these economic reversals are a direct threat to the well-being of all our people.

But more than prices and incomes are involved. In America, agriculture is more than an industry; it is a way of life. Throughout our history, the family farm has given strength and vitality to our entire social order. We must keep it healthy and vigorous.

Efforts toward this goal have been unremitting. Many new foundations of permanent value to all farm families have been laid in the past three years. Two years ago a new farm law was

enacted, designed to gear agricultural production incentives to potential markets, thereby giving promise to our farm people of a stable and dependable future once the wartime inheritance of surpluses is removed from the farm economy. Loan programs have been substantially improved, enabling many more farmers to acquire family-sized farms and to improve their farms and homes. The benefits of Social Security protection have been extended to farm families. The return of the Farm Credit Administration to farmer control; expansion of soil conservation assistance and rural electrification and telephone programs; increased funds for research and extension work; initiation of new programs to aid low income farm families; adoption of tax provisions of benefit to farm people; increased storage facilities; upstream soil conservation programs; greatly expanded disposal activities for surplus farm products; strengthening our Department of Agriculture representation overseas in the interest of expanded markets—these and other advances have permanently reinforced the foundations of all agriculture.

Yet, beneficial though these advances are, persistent and critical farm problems require prompt Congressional action in this Session.

Remedies for these problems demand a clear understanding of their principal causes. These are:

First—production and market distortions, the result of wartime production incentives too long continued;

Second—current record livestock production and near-record crop harvests piled on top of previously accumulated carryovers;

Third—rising costs and high capital requirements.

In short, we have an over-supply of commodities which drives down prices as mounting costs force up from below. Thus is generated a severe price-cost squeeze from which our farm people, with the help of government, must be relieved.

We must free the farm economy from distortions rooted in wartime needs and thus enable our people in agriculture to achieve prosperity; in so doing they will help carry the nation's

prosperity to still greater heights. The Administration and the Congress must move together to achieve this goal.

The requirements are clear. New means are needed to reduce surpluses and to widen markets. Costs must be cut and production must be better balanced with prospective needs.

THE MAIN PROBLEM—THE SURPLUS

Of the many difficulties that aggravate the farm problem, mountainous surpluses overshadow everything else. Today's surpluses consist of commodities produced in a volume imperatively needed in wartime but unmarketable in peacetime at the same prices and in the same quantity.

The plain fact is that wartime production incentives were too long continued.

During the past three years, there has been no lack of effort to get rid of surplus stocks. Disposal efforts have been diligent and vigorous. Vast quantities have been moved—much of them given away. In the past three years we have found outlets for commodities in a value of more than four billion dollars—far more than in any comparable period in recent history.

But these disposal efforts have not been able to keep pace with the problem. For each bushel-equivalent sold, one and a half have replaced it in the stockpiles. Farmers, the intended beneficiaries of the support program, today find themselves in ever-growing danger from the mounting accumulations. Were it not for the government's bulging stocks, farmers would be getting far more for their products today.

Other consequences of past farm programs have been no less damaging. Both at home and abroad, markets have been lost. Foreign farm production has been increased. American exports have declined. Foreign products have been attracted to our shores.

Steadily this chain of events has lengthened. Our farmers have had to submit to drastic acreage controls that hamper efficient farm management. Even these controls have been self-

defeating, because acres diverted from price-supported crops have been planted to other crops. These crops have been thrown into surplus and their prices have declined. Today, almost without regard to the livestock or crop he produces, nearly every farmer is adversely affected by our surpluses. The whole process, for instance, has contributed to the present plight of hog producers.

When three years ago this Administration assumed its responsibility in agriculture, work was begun immediately on what became the Agricultural Act of 1954. That Act was developed and passed with bipartisan support, as all our agricultural legislation should be.

The 1954 law brought realism into the use of the essential tool of price supports. It applied the principle of price flexibility to help keep commodity supplies in balance with markets. That principle is sound and essential to a well-rounded farm program. For two reasons, the 1954 law has not yet been able to make its potential contribution to solving our farm troubles. First, the law began to take hold only with the harvests of 1955; it has not yet had the opportunity to be effective. Second, the operation of the new law is smothered under surpluses amassed by the old program.

The attack on the surplus must go forward in full recognition of the fact that farm products are not actually marketed when delivered to and held by the government. A government warehouse is not a market. Even the most storable commodities cannot be added forever to government granaries, nor can they be indefinitely held. Ultimately the stockpiles must be used.

It is unthinkable to destroy food. Instead, we must move these stocks into domestic consumption or dispose of them abroad. Neither route under present conditions offers the results often expected. Surpluses moved domestically almost always compete directly with crops farmers are trying to sell. Moved abroad in quantities large enough to remedy present difficulties, they would

shatter world prices and trade, injure our friends and undermine domestic prices as well.

To be sure, outlets for some of the surplus exist both at home and abroad. But experience has amply proved that neither the home nor foreign market can, under present conditions, readily absorb the tremendous stocks now depressing our agriculture.

Clearly new action is imperative. We must stop encouraging the production of surpluses. We must stop shifting acres from one crop to another, when such shifts result in new surpluses. Nor can crop problems be converted into millstones weighing down upon the producers of livestock.

Remedies are needed now, and it is up to the Administration and the Congress to provide them swiftly. As we seek to go forward, we must not go back to old programs that have failed utterly to protect farm families.

I recommend, therefore, the following nine-point program. I urge the Congress to pass this program with maximum speed, for delay can only aggravate and multiply the difficulties already sorely harassing millions of our rural people.

1. THE SOIL BANK

Our most pressing need today is to work off our surpluses so that our basic program of 1954 can succeed in gearing production to prospective markets at fair prices. A three-pronged attack is needed.

First, future production of crops in greatest surplus must be adjusted both to the accumulated stocks and to the potential markets.

Second, producers of other crops and of livestock must be relieved of excessive production from acreage diverted from surplus crops.

Third, lands poorly suited to tillage, now producing unneeded crops and subject to excessive wind and water erosion, must be retired from cultivation.

These essential adjustments can all be hastened through a Soil Bank Program. I recommend a Soil Bank of two parts.

The first is designed to meet the immediate need to reduce the crops in greatest over-supply. It may be called the Acreage Reserve Program.

The second part is a long-range attack to achieve better land use and protect farmers and ranchers from the effects of production on acres already diverted. It may be called the Conservation Reserve Program.

A. The Acreage Reserve Program

I recommend that the Congress consider a voluntary additional reduction in the acreage of certain crops which today are in serious surplus—wheat, cotton, corn and rice.

In considering the application of this program to each of these crops, the Congress will wish to accord special attention to their distinctive problems—notably in the case of corn—as set forth later in this Message.

I do not propose this program as a device to empty government warehouses so they may be filled again. There is, therefore, a basic corollary to the Acreage Reserve Program: in future years we must avoid, as a plague, farm programs that would encourage the building-up of new price-depressing surpluses.

What I here propose is essentially a deferred-production plan. As a necessary part of the voluntary acreage reduction, it is essential to protect the farmer's income. It would be grossly unfair to require farmers to bear the full burdens of this readjustment. Just as other readjustments from war were shouldered in considerable part by the nation as a whole, so should this.

In the case of wheat and cotton, for example, I look to a voluntary reduction equivalent to possibly one-fifth of the acreage otherwise permitted by allotments—perhaps 12 million acres of wheat and 3 million of cotton. It should be practical to include wheat already seeded if it is incorporated with the soil, as green manure, or by other accepted practices. This would make it

possible for more farmers to enter the program immediately and thereby start at once to work down the surplus.

Administrative discretion is needed to assure that the rates of reduction in different areas are related to the supply and demand conditions for different grades and classes. The farmer's cooperation in this temporary program must not impair his historic acreage allotments. Rights of tenant farmers must be protected. I should expect the reduction in wheat and cotton plantings to continue for some 3 or 4 years, during which time these huge crop carry-overs should decline to normal levels.

In return for their voluntary participation in the Acreage Reserve Program cooperating farmers will be allocated certificates for commodities whose value will be based on the normal yields of the acres withheld in this Reserve. I recommend that these certificates be made available to cooperating farmers through their County Agricultural Stabilization Committees at normal harvest time for each crop. The certificates will be negotiable so farmers can convert them to cash. They will be redeemable by the Commodity Credit Corporation in cash, or in kind at specified rates.

I further recommend that the legislation provide that each participating farmer contract to refrain from cropping or grazing any land he puts in the Acreage Reserve.

By so reducing crop production, commodities now in government ownership can be used to supply market needs up to a proportionate amount. Thus the bulging Commodity Credit Corporation stocks can be correspondingly worked down without depressing current market prices.

The program will operate in this way: A farmer, with an allotment of 100 acres of wheat, for example, may choose to plant only 80 acres and put the remaining 20 in the Acreage Reserve. His acreage allotment will not be affected. He will agree not to graze or harvest any crop from the 20 acres put into the reserve.

In return for this cooperation in the temporary acreage re-

duction program, he will receive a cashable certificate. The certificate will be equal to a percentage of the value of the crop he would have normally harvested from the 20 acres. This percentage will be set at an incentive level sufficiently high to assure success of the program.

This deferred production plan uses the surplus to reduce the surplus.

It will be financed with commodities already owned and paid for by the government. Time and shrinkage, storage and other costs are eroding away the present value of these stocks. Consequently, the real net cost to the government—taking these and other facts into consideration—will be substantially less than the apparent cost in payments made on certificates.

I emphasize that this program is specifically intended to provide an income to farmers while the essential adjustment in stocks is being accomplished.

There are many virtues in the plan.

It will help remove the crushing burden of surpluses, the essential precondition for the successful operation of a sound farm program.

It will reduce the massive and unproductive storage costs on government holdings—costs that are running about a million dollars a day.

It will provide an element of insurance since farmers are assured income from the reserve acres even in a year of crop failure.

It will ease apprehension among our friends abroad over our surplus-disposal program.

It will harmonize agricultural production with peacetime markets.

B. The Conservation Reserve

The second part of the Soil Bank—the Conservation Reserve Program—affects both today's surpluses and tomorrow's needs of our growing population.

Under the pressures of war and the production incentives continued in postwar years, large areas have come into cultivation which wise land use and sound conservation would have reserved to forage and trees.

In greater or lesser degree this problem exists throughout the nation. Continued cropping of these lands results, on the one hand, in wastage of soil and water resources, and on the other, in production of commodities now in surplus.

Today the nation does not need these acres in harvested crops.

We cannot accurately predict our country's food needs in the years ahead, except that they will steadily increase. We do know, however, that the sound course both for today and tomorrow is wisely to safeguard our precious heritage of food-producing resources so we may hand on an enriched legacy to future generations. The Conservation Reserve Program will contribute materially to that end.

Further, production from the acres today diverted from surplus crops is now seriously affecting other segments of our agriculture. The acreage of feed grains, notably oats, barley and grain sorghums, has been increased. The end product of this diversion has been greatly enlarged supplies of and lower prices for hogs, cattle, and dairy and poultry products. Producers of fruit, vegetables, and other crops have been adversely affected. The proposed Conservation Reserve can also make a major contribution to solving this problem of diverted acres.

I propose that farmers be asked to contract voluntarily with the government to shift into forage, trees and water storage cultivated lands most needing conservation measures. Any farmer would be eligible to participate in this program regardless of the crop he produces or the area where his farm is located. I would hope that some 25 million acres would be brought into the Conservation Reserve.

Forest lands under good management are a constant and a renewable resource. One-third of our forest area is in farm woodlands. From this source can come a large share of the lum-

ber, pulpwood and other forest products to meet the growing needs of our expanding economy. The Conservation Reserve can mean productive and protective tree cover for less productive lands now used for cultivated crops.

The government itself must encourage this transfer in order to achieve the advantages to the general welfare that will follow from improved resource use. I propose, therefore, that the government pay a fair share of the costs of establishing the conservation use, up to a specified per acre maximum that will vary by regions. The government's share will be sufficiently high to encourage broad participation and thus assure the success of the program. Further, as the farmer reorganizes his farm along these soil-conserving lines, I recommend that the government provide certain annual payments for a period of years related to the length of time needed to establish the new use of the land. The Congress will need to develop the basis and procedures for determining the amount of the payments. Here, as in the Acreage Reserve Program, I would not let the farmer's cooperation impair his historic acreage allotments.

The farmer, in turn, will agree that the acres put into this Conservation Reserve will be in addition to any land that he may put into the Acreage Reserve, and will represent a reduction in cropland cultivated. He will agree to carry out sound soil and water conservation on these acres, and to refrain from returning them to crop production and from grazing them for a specified period.

I urge the Congress to approve this program with the least possible delay so that a significant part of the desired 25 million acres can come into the program in 1956.

My estimate is that if the Congress acts in time, some 350 million dollars will be invested in the Conservation Reserve during the calendar year 1956, and a total of about a billion dollars over the next 3 years. Sums expended under this program will be in addition to the 250 million dollars provided for the Agricultural Conservation Program for the coming fiscal year.

In return the Conservation Reserve Program will bring these large rewards:

It will result in improved use of soil and water resources for the benefit of this and future generations.

It will increase our supply of much-needed farm-grown forest products.

It will help hold rain and snow where they fall and make possible more ponds and reservoirs on the farm.

It will reduce the undue stimulus to livestock production, and consequent low livestock prices, induced by feed-grain production on diverted acres.

It will similarly provide protection for producers of the many small-acreage crops whose markets are threatened by even a few diverted acres.

In combination with the Acreage Reserve Program for crops in surplus, the Conservation Reserve Program will help during the next several years to reduce the total volume of farm production and improve the balance among different farm commodities, both of which are important to a general improvement in farm prices.

2. SURPLUS DISPOSAL

Production adjustments effected by the Soil Bank are needed to halt current additions to surpluses and to reduce stocks on hand. But additional relief must be obtained from the price-depressing influence of these huge carry-overs. In Public Law 480 the Congress has provided basic legislation for this purpose. The problem still exists, but not for lack of vigorous efforts to deal with it.

Surplus disposals have permitted substantial reductions in Commodity Credit Corporation stocks of butter, dried milk, cottonseed oil and meal, flaxseed and linseed oil and seeds. Surplus disposals by the Commodity Credit Corporation have risen from just over half a billion dollars in fiscal 1953 to more than 1.4 billion dollars in fiscal 1954, and to more than 2.1 billion dollars in fiscal 1955.

In the last fiscal year sales of government-owned price-supported commodities into the domestic market reached 403 million dollars. These were made with due care for the adverse effect they might have on prices received by farmers for current sales. Domestic donations to supply food for needy persons totaled an additional 196 million dollars. Overseas disposals, through barter and donations for constructive purposes, totaled 1.1 billion dollars. In spite of these vigorous efforts, the Commodity Credit Corporation investment in price-supported commodities increased by about one billion dollars during the fiscal year.

Because the problem continues to be so serious and stubborn, the Secretary of Agriculture is appointing an Agricultural Surplus Disposal Administrator who will report directly to the Secretary. The duties of the Administrator will relate to all activities of the Department associated with the utilization of Commodity Credit Corporation stocks and of our current abundant production.

Expanded opportunities will be sought to barter agricultural products, which deteriorate and are costly to store, for increased quantities of nonperishable strategic materials. Additional legislation may be needed in this field.

The bulk of price-supported commodities held by the government cannot now by law be sold into the domestic market except at prices equal to at least 105 percent of the support price plus carrying charges. This restriction has worked to the disadvantage of both farmers and the government by blocking sales that would clearly have been advantageous to both. I recommend legislation to permit, under proper safeguards, sales at not less than support levels plus carrying charges.

Present provisions of surplus disposal legislation permit export dispositions of government stocks to friendly nations only. Opportunities clearly to our interest may develop in the future to sell to countries excluded by this legislation. To enable us to

realize on such opportunities I recommend repeal of section 304 of Public Law 480.

3. STRENGTHENING COMMODITY PROGRAMS

Our frontal attack on the problems of surpluses, diverted acres, unbalanced production and unwise land use is carried in major part by the Soil Bank through the Acreage Reserve and the Conservation Reserve Programs.

These proposals are wholly in keeping with the fundamental principles of sound farm policy set forth in my special agricultural message of two years ago. In keeping with these principles the Administration:

(a) Whenever possible will continue to ease or eliminate controls over farmers; and

(b) For commodities on which price supports are discretionary, will continue to support these prices at the highest levels possible without accumulating new price-depressing surpluses.

In keeping with this latter principle, I am advised by the Secretary of Agriculture that, as a direct result of operation of various parts of our present farm program, the supply and demand conditions for soybeans and flaxseed are now such as to warrant an increase in the price support levels for these crops in 1956. The higher support levels will be announced shortly.

In respect to other commodity programs I submit the following specific suggestions.

A. Corn

In recent years many farmers have chosen not to observe acreage allotments on corn. Considerably less than half of the 1955 crop was raised within acreage allotment limitations and thus eligible for price support. It is apparent that price supports alone, even at levels closely approaching the legal maximum, are an insufficient inducement for participation in a corn acreage allotment program.

I recommend therefore that the Congress give serious consideration to adapting the Acreage Reserve Program to corn. One grave difficulty must be overcome. Unlike wheat and cotton, most of the corn crop is fed on the farms where it is produced. For this reason, marketing quotas such as are used on wheat and cotton are not feasible.

Thus, broad and effective participation by corn producers in an acreage allotment program is imperative for the Acreage Reserve Program to achieve its objective of reducing the corn surplus. With broad and effective participation, in both programs, the Acreage Reserve Program for corn would:

- (a) Reduce the carryover stocks which currently depress the market,
- (b) Make possible a higher level of price support than would otherwise prevail for the 1956 crop, and
- (c) Reduce the incentive to farmers to produce excessive supplies of hogs and fed cattle.

If the Congress should choose not to authorize the Acreage Reserve Program for corn, the Congress may wish to consider an alternative: to eliminate acreage allotments for corn and put price supports for corn on a discretionary basis comparable with the other feed grains. With no acreage allotments and with discretionary supports, all corn producers would be eligible for price supports at a level substantially above the market price which prevailed during the 1955 harvest.

B. Wheat

The problems of wheat are difficult and complex. The proposed Soil Bank, with its Acreage Reserve Program, will make a major contribution toward their solution. This program is particularly well-suited to wheat since this crop is grown in large acreage and is now burdened under an accumulated carry-over in excess of a full year's needs. The Conservation Reserve Program and the Great Plains Program, described later, will also help. Other changes are necessary also, both for current adjust-

ments and for long-term balance between production and consumption.

(a) Legislation already has passed the Senate and is pending in the House of Representatives which would exempt from marketing quotas those producers who use for feed, food, or seed on their own farms all the wheat they raise. Because of the failure to pass this legislation last year, the Department of Agriculture has been compelled by law to hail before the courts farmers whose only offense was to raise and feed wheat outside their quotas. Again the Administration urges prompt enactment of this legislation. Correction of this problem should be delayed no longer.

(b) Historically a significant proportion of the annual wheat crop has been used for livestock feed. The quantity fed in pre-World War II years ranged from 100 to 150 million bushels a year, about twice the quantity fed in more recent years. This reduced consumption has aggravated the surplus burden.

I recommend that the Congress give consideration to authorizing the annual sale for feeding purposes, at the discretion of the Secretary of Agriculture, of limited quantities of Commodity Credit Corporation wheat of less desirable milling quality. The authorized sale price should reflect the feeding value of the wheat, precautions being exercised as to the effect of such sales on prices of other feed grains. There are opportunities to use more wheat for feed in feed-deficit areas distant from the Corn Belt.

(c) I recommend legislation to expand the non-commercial wheat area beyond the 12 States now so designated. This action would eliminate acreage and marketing controls for many farmers who characteristically feed on their own farms most of the wheat they raise, and who contribute little to commercial supplies or surplus stocks.

(d) I recommend extension for one year of legislation which exempts durum wheat from acreage and marketing controls. This type of wheat is in short supply and production should not be restricted.

We are participating in negotiations for possible renewal of the International Wheat Agreement, which will terminate July 1, 1956, unless it is renewed.

C. Cotton

As in the case of wheat, the Acreage Reserve Program is especially well-suited to cotton. This crop as well is burdened by an accumulated carry-over in excess of a full year's requirements. Other legislative changes for cotton, in addition to the Soil Bank Program, that require consideration are these:

(a) For all crops except cotton, price support legislation requires that parity prices shall be computed on the basis of the average grade and quality of the crop. For cotton a special provision of law designates Middling $\frac{7}{8}$ -inch cotton as the standard grade for parity calculations and price support. Currently less than 5 percent of cotton production is of this grade or lower.

I urge an amendment to provide for cotton, as for other crops, that the average grade and quality of the crop be utilized for parity-price computations. This recommendation is, in general terms, in keeping with the intent of legislation already pending before the Senate.

(b) The shortcomings of acreage allotments as a means of controlling production on cotton are evident. In 1955, on an acreage allotment calculated to yield 10 million bales of cotton, nearly 15 million were harvested. Rapidly advancing technology is resulting in production far outrunning expectations based on acreage alone. This is especially true when prices are supported at wartime production incentive levels.

When production controls must be applied as a result of supply and market conditions, it is imperative to have controls that are effective. As surpluses are reduced through the proposed Acreage Reserve Program of the Soil Bank and through other means, new accumulations of surplus must definitely be avoided.

For these reasons the Congress should consider replacing acreage allotments on cotton with quantity allotments beginning with

the crop of 1957. The Congress could well consider similar action for other crops under marketing quotas.

D. Rice

Under the law, accumulated supplies of rice have required a 40 percent reduction in acreage for 1956 compared with 1954, and a decline in the support level to 75 percent of parity.

Rice production in this country is the most efficient in the world. However, our rice is rapidly being priced out of world markets and is being diverted into government warehouses and even into the feed markets.

There are two alternative courses of action to which the Congress should give consideration:

1. Inclusion of rice in the Acreage Reserve Program. This will require continuation of production controls and marketing quotas.

2. Elimination of existing production and marketing controls on rice. Prices could then be supported on a discretionary basis at levels which would permit rice producers to improve their competitive market position.

If the Congress considers the latter course to serve the long-term best interest of rice producers, it may wish to consider use of the Acreage Reserve Program to make the transition.

E. Peanuts

The peanut price-stabilization program has experienced serious difficulties stemming in part from a fixed national minimum peanut acreage. With improving technology this minimum acreage will normally produce more peanuts than the market will absorb at the support price. Consequently, I recommend elimination of provisions for the minimum national acreage allotment.

F. Sugar

The legislation to renew the Sugar Act of 1948, as amended, should promptly be completed. The Congress is aware of the

need to give producers, as well as foreign suppliers and the entire sugar industry, as much advance notice as possible in planning their operations.

G. Special School Milk Program

The Special School Milk Program provided for in the Agricultural Act of 1954 has met with gratifying success. Approximately nine million children had the health benefits of this program last year, including children in some 7,000 schools in which milk was not previously served. Consumption was increased by over 450 million half pints of milk. This is a good example of constructive use of a surplus product to meet a present need. We thus contribute to better health habits and at the same time promote an enlarged market for the future. Several thousand additional schools are participating in the program in the current school year.

I have been advised that, in some States, Milk Program funds are nearing depletion. We must see to it that the program is carried forward intact through this fiscal year.

I recommend that the program be extended for two years beyond June 30, 1956, with authorization to use Commodity Credit Corporation funds increased from 50 million dollars a year to 75 million dollars.

H. Livestock

For livestock producers, many parts of the program I have already discussed have special significance.

Establishment of the Soil Bank will alleviate the undue stimulus to livestock production and the resulting downward pressure on livestock prices which arise from using for feed-grain production much of the acreage already diverted from wheat and cotton. Restrictions against grazing the Soil Bank acres will safeguard the interests of beef producers and dairymen.

Periodically livestock markets become glutted and prices disrupted. In such periods where assistance will be constructive,

timely and vigorous government purchase and diversion programs are essential to bolster prices and help producers adjust to market demands. Such programs have been undertaken by this Administration. The pork purchase program now in progress will shortly be stepped up to supply new and expanded outlets now being developed. Sales promotion and the development of better merchandising methods cooperatively with the livestock trade are part of this effort to meet the impact of heavy marketing.

Special programs of an emergency nature will be provided to help livestock producers as needed. For example, emergency credit and low-cost feed in the event of drought will be available whenever disaster strikes.

Increased research on nutrition, disease control, better breeding, more profitable use of by-products and improved marketing will help lower production costs and facilitate the smooth flow of livestock products into consumption.

4. DOLLAR LIMIT ON PRICE SUPPORTS

The average size of farms in American agriculture, as measured by capital or by acres, has rapidly increased. To the degree that this trend is associated with the development of more economic and more efficient farm units it is in the interest of farm families and of the nation. To the degree, however, that it has resulted in the removal of risk for large farm businesses by reason of price supports, it is much less wholesome and constitutes a threat to the traditional family farm.

Under the price support machinery as it has been functioning, price support loans of tremendous size have occasionally occurred. It is not sound government policy to underwrite at public expense such formidable competition with family operated farms, which are the bulwark of our agriculture.

I ask the Congress to consider placing a dollar limit on the size of price support loans to any one individual or farming unit. The

limit should be sufficiently high to give full protection to efficiently operated family farms.

5. RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

In my message of January 11, 1954, I pointed out that the chief beneficiaries of our farm programs have been the 2 million larger, more productive farm units. Production on nearly 3 million other farms is so limited that the families thereon benefit only in small degree from the types of programs that heretofore have dominated our activities.

On April 26, 1955, I transmitted to the Congress recommendations of the Secretary of Agriculture for attacking the problems of low-income farm families. The Congress has met only in part these recommendations for legislation and appropriations. Despite the resultant handicaps, the interest in this program has been so great that pilot work is already under way in well over 30 counties widely spread throughout the United States. There is activity now in more than one-half of the States.

Four Departments of the Federal Government—Commerce, Labor, Health, Education and Welfare, and Agriculture—are actively at work on this program with State and local leadership to aid low income farm families.

Not only the welfare of these families but also of the people as a whole require that this program go forward. Once again, therefore, I urge the Congress to enact the full program recommended in my message of April 26, 1955.

6. THE GREAT PLAINS PROGRAM

Between the prairies of the Central West and the Rocky Mountains is a vast area embracing all or part of 10 States, in which erratic climate, wind and water erosion, and special problems of land use constitute a continuing hazard. For more than a year intensive new studies of conditions and problems peculiar to this Great Plains region have been in progress. The work has been carried on cooperatively between the leadership of the

10 States involved, the Department of Agriculture and the Great Plains Council which includes technical people from the States of the region. This study will help to define the respective responsibilities of individuals and local, State, and Federal agencies.

The proposed Soil Bank, with its Acreage Reserve Program to reduce promptly production of crops in surplus and with its Conservation Reserve Program to take less productive lands out of crops, will meet in part some of the conditions especially serious in the Great Plains. Other desirable modifications of existing legislation include:

1. Provision for long-time cost-sharing commitments under the Agricultural Conservation Program, and
2. Relaxation of planting requirements to maintain base acreage for wheat allotments.

Shortly I will transmit to the Congress a report containing certain recommendations for providing a more stable agriculture in this important region.

7. RESEARCH

Scientific research has been the means of fundamentally important developments both in agriculture and industry. It has resulted in improved quality, new and better techniques, new products, new markets, new high levels of material well-being for our people, and new horizons for our future. Most individual farmers are not in a position to carry on scientific investigations. Government has special responsibility in this area—and particularly is this the case since the benefits of research related to agriculture are widely shared by all the people.

Not only can research provide for the material needs of future generations, but it also can contribute in many ways to the fuller utilization of our present abundance.

We must look for new *uses* of agricultural products that can contribute to human welfare, such as livestock by-products for medicinal purposes or such as coarse fibers for construction materials already have contributed.

We must find *new markets*, as we have for tallow in industry or as have followed upon the development of frozen and powdered juice concentrates.

We must find *new crops* offering such new opportunities and benefits as are exemplified by soybeans and sorghums.

We must further improve our marketing mechanism, as already has been done through refrigeration and new processing techniques, so that the benefits of our abundance may be still more widely distributed. Marketing margins have continued to increase, even while farm prices have been declining. Thus the farmer's share of the retail food dollar has shrunk appreciably. Retail prices have changed little, thereby impeding desired increases in consumption. We must find ways to lower costs of food distribution. Research is an effective way to help attain that important goal. The Secretary of Agriculture is actively engaged in an expanded inquiry directed toward reducing the costs of distribution.

Our basic scientific knowledge from which all practical applications of science are made is vitally important and must be expanded. This knowledge is essential also to continue the attack on the ravages of plant and animal pests and diseases. We cannot use or reap benefits from what we do not know. A major frontier of agriculture lies in our laboratories and experimental fields.

In the budget message, I will request the maximum increase in agricultural research funds that can be effectively used next year with the technical manpower and facilities available. This will be an increase of one-fourth, to a total of 103 million dollars.

8. CREDIT

In making the transition from war to peace, and similarly in making the investment adjustments associated with a dynamic agriculture, farmers are experiencing increased need for credit. This is especially true for young men, particularly veterans, who have started farming in recent years.

Private financial institutions, individuals, and government agencies are furnishing credit for agriculture. Administrative, budgetary, and legislative changes now being developed in government all point toward assuring adequate and sympathetic coverage of agricultural credit requirements, which cannot be met by private financial institutions.

Loans made by the Farmers Home Administration have increased gradually during the past four years from 212 million dollars to well over 300 million dollars, and can increase further as the new provisions for insured loans become more widely used.

The Farm Credit Administration has been reorganized to give farmers a greater voice in its operation. Further legislation will be proposed to combine the Production Credit Corporations and the Federal Intermediate Credit Banks. Federal Land Bank loans made by the Farm Credit Administration have increased from 237 million dollars four years ago to more than 400 million dollars last year.

The Administration is determined to see to it that an adequate supply of credit remains readily available to our farmers at all times.

9. GASOLINE TAX

One of the farmer's operating costs is the Federal tax on gasoline. About one-half of the gasoline bought by farmers is used on the farm. I recommend that legislation be passed to relieve the farmer of the Federal tax on purchases of gasoline so used.

Historically agricultural policy in this country has sought to foster family-sized owner-operated farms. This has been a sound and wise policy—not only in the development of an efficient agriculture which has become the envy of the world, but also in fostering a sturdy, resourceful, self-reliant citizenry.

Farm organization and farming operations are undergoing profound change as science and technology rapidly alter the structure of agriculture. Great care must be exercised that these

changes do not result in huge corporation farms on the one hand or in unrewarding subsistence units on the other. The time-proven commercial family farm must continue as the basic social and economic unit of agriculture. Accordingly farm policy must encourage such farms, sufficiently large and productive to provide satisfactions in farm living equal to those enjoyed by other Americans.

Insofar as the problems of agriculture can best be solved by government action, government should accept the responsibility.

The proper role of government, however, is that of partner with the farmer—never his master. By every possible means we must develop and promote that partnership—to the end that agriculture may continue to be a sound, enduring foundation for our economy and that farm living may be a profitable and satisfying experience.

Assisted by experienced farm people both in and out of government, I have been earnestly studying this problem for many months. I believe that the nine-point program, set forth in this message, building on our present program, meets the urgent needs of our farmers today and does so in a way consistent with our basic traditions. It offers no nostrums or panaceas. Our farm folk expect better of us than to deal in that kind of specious practice.

Farmers expect programs that are forward-looking, economically sound and fair.

This program offers a workable approach to reducing the surpluses, bringing production and markets into balance at fair prices, and so raising the income and advancing the security of our farm families.

Should this program be enacted, its degree of success will be dependent upon the degree of farmer participation and upon a common determination to work together in ridding ourselves of burdensome surpluses. With such a spirit, this program will speed the transition to a stable, prosperous and free peacetime agriculture with a bright future.

Again I urge upon the Congress the need for swift legislative action on these recommendations, in the interest of our farm people, in the interest of every American citizen.

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

7 ¶ Letter to the President of the Senate and to the Speaker of the House of Representatives
Transmitting Agricultural Program for the Great Plains Region. *January 11, 1956*

Dear ————:

Special problems requiring special attention have long existed throughout the Great Plains region in the central part of our country. I strongly urge the Congress to consider and act on these problems during this session.

The Great Plains region, a vast agricultural empire peopled by 17 million of our citizens, is an area of severe climatic variations which periodically produce widespread suffering and heavy economic losses. In this region farm families have a continuous struggle to protect their best cultivated and grazing lands against soil erosion during seasons of high winds and frequent periods of extremely dry weather. Some of the most critical problems of the area are the outgrowth of war when farmers and ranchers in the Great Plains States patriotically and energetically responded to their Government's call for greatly increased production to meet wartime demands by converting grasslands to cultivation.

Because these problems directly concern the lives and prosperity of millions of American citizens, the Nation as a whole is directly concerned. Because all Americans are concerned with the maintenance and improvement of our soil and water resources, every citizen in the land has an interest in the solution of agricultural difficulties in the vast Great Plains area.

The Secretary of Agriculture has submitted to me a program for meeting these problems which I herewith enclose. This program is built on 100 years of experience of farmers and ranchers, on 20 years of organized effort on the part of the Great Plains Council, and on a year of intensive Federal study under the leadership of the Secretary of Agriculture.

In part, the program is already under way. Other administrative action is now being taken. Certain legislation is needed, as the enclosed Report indicates. Appropriation requests to implement the proposed program will also be presented to the Congress shortly.

Sincerely,

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

NOTE: This is the text of identical letters addressed to the Honorable Richard M. Nixon, President of the Senate, and the Honorable Sam Rayburn, Speaker of the House of Representatives. The letters were released with a letter from Secretary Benson transmitting the report referred to by the President.

The report, entitled "Program for

the Great Plains," was developed by the Department of Agriculture in cooperation with the Great Plains Agricultural Council. The report is printed in House Document 289 (84th Cong., 2d sess.) and in Department of Agriculture Miscellaneous Publication 709 (Government Printing Office, 1956).

8 ¶ Special Message to the Congress on Education. *January 12, 1956*

To the Congress of the United States:

For several years now, our educational system has been the object of intensified appraisal.

Signs of heartening progress have come to light. Among these are: classroom construction at a higher rate than ever before; teachers' salaries increased in many communities; the number of small, uneconomical school districts reduced; substantially more

young people preparing for the teaching profession; private gifts to higher education at new heights; support of education at all levels greater than ever before.

Encouraging as these advances are, they are not enough to meet our expanding educational needs. Action on a broader scale and at a more rapid rate is clearly imperative.

We still do not have enough good classrooms for our children. There is insufficient emphasis on both short-range and long-term research into the core of educational problems. We need examination and study, from a broad view-point, of the increasing needs of higher education. These lacks are magnified by an ever-increasing stream of student enrollment and the increasing complexity of modern society.

THE WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE ON EDUCATION

Two years ago, the Congress approved my recommendation of a program to direct nation-wide attention and action to our educational problems and opportunities. As a consequence, more than 4,000 State and local conferences were held throughout 1955. The White House Conference on Education, the first such Conference in our history, was held last November. The work of the conferences has aroused the Nation. The final report of the White House Conference Committee should receive wide and serious attention.

Benefits already are apparent. About half a million people across the Nation, representing all segments of life, came to grips with the problems of education. The status of American education—where it is; the future of American education—where it should and can go—have been illuminated as perhaps never before. Most important of all, there has been a reawakening of broad public interest in our schools. The conferences helped to erase the corroding notion that schools were the other person's responsibility.

In our society no firmer foundation for action can be laid than common understanding of a problem; no more potent force can

be devised for assailing a problem than the common will to do the job. For the improvement of our educational system, the people themselves have laid the foundation in understanding and willingness.

THE NEED FOR FEDERAL AID IN MEETING THE CLASSROOM
SHORTAGE

The responsibility for public education rests with the States and the local communities. Federal action which infringes upon this principle is alien to our system. But our history has demonstrated that the Federal Government, in the interest of the whole people, can and should help with certain problems of nation-wide scope and concern when States and communities—acting independently—cannot solve the full problem or solve it rapidly enough.

Clearly, this is the kind of situation we face today in considering the school classroom shortage. In the war and postwar periods, school construction was drastically curtailed by shortages of materials. And then schools were filled to overflowing by the largest, most rapid enrollment increase in history. Today, hundreds of thousands of children study under overcrowded conditions, in half-day or doubled-up school sessions, or in makeshift buildings not designed as schools. Further, many classrooms in use today are obsolete, inadequate—and each year more rooms become so. School enrollments will continue to increase rapidly over the years ahead—and this will require still more classrooms.

Against this backdrop of needs, States and communities are substantially increasing their classroom construction. But many communities simply do not have available locally the resources needed to cope both with the legacy of shortages from past years and with future needs. Unless these communities get help, they simply cannot provide enough good schools. The best estimates indicate that, on a nation-wide basis, the current rate of construction only a little more than meets each year's new enrollment and

replacement needs. This rate barely dents the large accumulation of needs from past years.

The rate of classroom construction must be further increased, as the White House Conference on Education asked, by a greater combined effort of local and State governments. And the Conference concluded that Federal assistance also is necessary. The facts support this conclusion.

THE ADMINISTRATION'S PROPOSALS

A year ago, I proposed a Federal program designed to aid the States and communities in overcoming the classroom shortage. The Congress has not yet enacted legislation. In the light of a full year of further experience and study, in the light of Congressional hearings and the White House Conference on Education, I now submit a revised and broadened program to meet our pressing classroom needs. I propose:

A program of Federal grants amounting to \$1,250,000,000, at a rate of \$250,000,000 annually for five years, matched with State funds, to supplement local construction efforts in the neediest school districts.

A program to authorize \$750 million over five years for Federal purchase of local school construction bonds when school districts cannot sell them in private markets at reasonable interest rates.

A five-year program of advances to help provide reserves for bonds issued by State school financing agencies. These bonds would finance local construction of schools to be rented and eventually owned by the local school systems.

A five-year, \$20 million program of matching grants to States for planning to help communities and States overcome obstacles to their financing of school construction.

If speedily and fully utilized, this Federal program—added to the increased basic efforts of States and communities—should overcome the Nation's critical classroom shortage within five years. Once this shortage is overcome, the Federal grant program can and must terminate. The States and localities should

then go forward, without Federal funds, to meet their current and future needs. Present construction levels indicate their ability to do this.

I am confident the Federal Government with this program can help construct schools without in any way weakening the American tradition that control of education must be kept close to the local communities. Any legislation enacted should embody this principle.

ESSENTIAL PRINCIPLES IN FEDERAL GRANTS

I strongly urge the Congress, in providing grants for school construction, to follow certain principles, which are indispensable if Federal aid is to serve the cause of American education most effectively.

The first broad principle is that Federal grants must not reduce the incentive for State and local efforts—but rather should stimulate an increase in such efforts. If Federal funds are used merely to replace funds which otherwise would or could be provided at State and local levels, there is no net gain of schools for our children. I propose, therefore, that Federal grants be matched by State appropriations. Because many of the State legislatures will not have a session this year, I recommend, in order to speed the program at the outset, that during the first year of the five year period the matching of Federal funds may be by either the States or by local school districts. The requirement for State matching will result in a larger total program of school construction, and will assure active participation of the States in improving laws relating to financing of school construction, as well as sound administration of the program.

Furthermore, I propose a formula to reduce the proportion of Federal funds for those few States which are noticeably lagging, behind their ability, to support their public schools. This feature should act as an incentive for the lagging States to increase their effort.

Another fundamental principle is that Federal funds, under

this type of program, should be distributed according to relative need. We must recognize that some States have more financial resources than others. We must recognize that a weakness in education anywhere is a weakness in the Nation as a whole. Federal appropriations will most quickly accomplish the most good if a relatively larger share of Federal funds is distributed where local and State resources are least adequate to meet classroom needs.

I propose that this principle be fulfilled in three ways. First, in distributing Federal funds, larger amounts per school-age child should be allotted to States with lower income per child. Second, in fixing matching requirements, States with lower income should not be required to put up as large a proportion of funds as higher income States. For the Nation as a whole, the total of State matching funds would approximately equal the total of Federal funds. Third, as the States distribute these funds, the highest priority should be given to school districts with the least economic ability to meet their needs.

CREDIT SUPPORT FOR SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION

Some school districts find difficulty in marketing bonds to finance needed school construction. To meet this situation, I again recommend that the Congress authorize Federal purchase of local school construction bonds unmarketable except at excessive interest rates.

Some school districts, however, are unable to raise capital funds needed for school construction because of bonding limits. To encourage school construction in these districts, as well as in districts where construction would be speeded by the lease-purchase method, I propose again that Congress authorize advances to the States as a reserve for bonds of State school financing agencies.

Several States have made marked progress in building schools through State agencies which issue long-term bonds to finance school construction in the districts. The school district leases the

new building. Revenue from rents is used by the agencies to retire their bonds. After the bonds have been paid, title to the school is transferred to the local district. The program of Federal support is aimed at helping more States start such school financing agencies, and thus at helping local districts overcome barriers to building more schools.

The credit support for bonds of communities and State agencies, taken together with the planning grants, should help the States and communities continue their present annual rate of substantial increase in school construction over the next five years. The partnership program of Federal grants, matched by the States, should complete the task of building the classrooms that are critically needed.

AID TO FEDERALLY AFFECTED AREAS

In considering the school construction problem, there is a special, related area which should have the attention of the Congress at this time. The Congress has for some years recognized the responsibility of the Federal Government to aid communities where Federal activities result in excessive burdens on the local school system. Authority to provide Federal funds for school construction in Federally affected school districts will expire next June and should be extended.

EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH

Basic to all endeavors in improving education is a vigorous and far-sighted program of educational research. This has been a sorely neglected field.

Such a program should be comprehensive in its approach, planned on a broad scale and executed thoroughly. In this way, educational research can, among other things, point the way to advances in making life more meaningful to more people and in the more efficient use of manpower and funds for education.

To increase the effectiveness of education, national leadership could well be directed to research in such areas as: ways of

educating more people to their fullest capacity; staffing and housing the Nation's schools and colleges; educating the retarded child to help him lead a more normal life, and educating the child of special abilities so that he may utilize these abilities more fully; the relationship of schools to juvenile delinquency; educational effects of population mobility; educational needs of low income families. These studies would be conducted through the Office of Education in cooperation with the Nation's colleges, universities, and State departments of education, thus encouraging and strengthening existing research efforts.

It is imperative that we now give renewed attention and support to this arm of education—to the end that the country may have a sound, factual basis for identifying and analyzing problems and finding solutions. For these research purposes, and also to expand and improve other services, I urge the Congress to provide a major increase in funds for the Office of Education.

EDUCATION BEYOND HIGH SCHOOL

Our vision would be limited if we failed at this time to give special thought to education beyond the high school. Certain problems exist now in this field, and already we can foresee other needs and problems shaping up in the future.

Shortages now exist in medicine, teaching, nursing, science, engineering, and in other fields of knowledge which require education beyond the level of the secondary school. Changing times and conditions create new opportunities and challenges. There are new possibilities for older persons—properly trained—to lead more productive and rewarding lives. The tide of increasing school enrollment will soon reach higher educational institutions. Within ten years we may expect three students in our colleges and universities for every two who are there now.

Higher education is and must remain the responsibility of the States, localities, and private groups and institutions. But to lay before us all the problems of education beyond high school, and to encourage active and systematic attack on them, I shall

appoint a distinguished group of educators and citizens to develop this year, through studies and conferences, proposals in this educational field. Through the leadership and counsel of this group, beneficial results can be expected to flow to education and to the Nation, in the years ahead.

TEACHING

In all our efforts for education—in providing adequate schools, research and study—we must never lose sight of the very heart of education; good teaching itself.

Good teachers do not just happen. They are the product of the highest personal motivation, encouraged and helped in their work by adequate salaries and the respect, support, goodwill of their neighbors. The quality of American teaching has never been better. But the rewards for too many teachers are not commensurate with their work and their role in American life.

It is my earnest hope that, along with progress in other aspects of education, the States and communities will give increasing attention to this taproot of all education—good teachers, and hence good teaching.

CONCLUSION

These several proposals are designed, not only to correct current problems, but to build for the future. For today's decisions will influence tomorrow's education—and, hence, the welfare of the Nation.

The actions here proposed, I believe, constitute a sound and realistic approach to those educational problems on which the Federal Government should now act. They have a primary reliance on the private initiative which wells from the free spirit of a free people.

With this program, we can lay the basis for better education in America in the years ahead. In this way we keep faith with our children.

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

9 ¶ Letter to Allen W. Dulles, Director of Central Intelligence, Regarding Board of Consultants on Foreign Intelligence Activities. *January 13, 1956*

[Released January 13, 1956. Dated January 11, 1956]

Dear Mr. Dulles:

In the Hoover Commission Report submitted to Congress on June 29, 1955, relating to the intelligence activities of the Government, there is a recommendation that I appoint a "committee of experienced private citizens who shall have the responsibility to examine and report" on the work of the Government's foreign intelligence activities. I have noted your concurrence.

In accordance with this recommendation, I am constituting a Board of Consultants to review periodically the foreign intelligence activities of this Government, and to report their findings to me. While the review would concern itself with the sum total of these activities, it would be expected that major attention would be concentrated upon the work of the Central Intelligence Agency. A copy of the letter which I am sending to the prospective members of the Board is enclosed.

The work of this Board together with the regular reviews conducted by the appropriate Committees of the Congress will help to provide a method for assuring the Congress, the public, and the Executive Branch that this highly important and sensitive work is being efficiently conducted.

I know that you will afford the Board of Consultants the fullest cooperation in its work.

Sincerely,

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

NOTE: See Item 10 for letter to prospective members of the Board. See also Executive Order 10656 of February 6, 1956, "Establishing the President's Board of Consultants on Foreign Intelligence Activities" (21 F. R. 859; 3 CFR, 1956 Supp.).

10 ¶ Letter to Dr. James R. Killian, Jr.,
Appointing Him Chairman, Board of Consultants
on Foreign Intelligence Activities.

January 13, 1956

[Released January 13, 1956. Dated January 11, 1956]

Dear Dr. Killian:

I am establishing a Board of Consultants on foreign intelligence activities of this Government for the purpose of providing me periodically with independent evaluations of the work of the organizations involved. This Board will consist of eight outstanding citizens in whose high qualifications and discretion I have the fullest confidence. I would like to have you serve as Chairman of this Board.

It is my desire that this Board should meet not less often than once every six months to analyze carefully the work of the Government's foreign intelligence activities. These sessions might involve meetings over a period of several days. While the review by your group would be concerned with all Government foreign intelligence activities, I would expect particular detailed attention to be concentrated on the work of the Central Intelligence Agency and of those intelligence elements of key importance in other departments and agencies. I am particularly anxious to obtain your views as to the over-all progress that is being made, the quality of training and personnel, security, progress in research, effectiveness of specific projects and of the handling of funds, and general competence in carrying out assigned intelligence tasks.

It is my sincere conviction that prompt and accurate intelligence is essential to the policy making branches of the Government in the field of national security and foreign relations. By serving on the Board you can make a real contribution to the task of Government.

It is my hope that you and the others whom I am inviting to serve will be able to meet with Mr. Allen W. Dulles, Director of Central Intelligence, and me in the near future to determine the scope of your review of the work in the foreign intelligence field and to draw up terms of reference to permit you effectively to carry out your assigned task.

Sincerely,

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

NOTE: The President sent similar letters to the following persons requesting them to serve as members of the Board: Adm. Richard L. Conolly, Lt. Gen. James H. Doolittle, Benja-

min F. Fairless, Gen. John E. Hull, Joseph P. Kennedy, Robert A. Lovett, and Edward L. Ryerson. See also Item 9 and note.

¶ Memorandum on the Red Cross Campaign. *January 13, 1956*

To the Heads of Executive Departments, Commissions and Agencies:

The American Red Cross is a national fellowship of good will, a mighty force for unity. In joining the Red Cross, we multiply the helpfulness that any one of us could extend alone. Our memberships make possible blood for the sick and injured; assistance for our servicemen and veterans in personal and family emergencies; recovery from the shock and loss of disaster to those struck down by catastrophes. The concern of the Red Cross extends to other vital health and safety programs that make our towns and cities better communities in which to live.

I know that in the forthcoming annual Red Cross Campaign for Members and Funds, America will again make certain that the organization is provided with the resources it needs. I am equally confident that Federal employees will be in the vanguard of all those who help keep the Red Cross on the job. We in the

Federal service can, by our example, inspire our fellow citizens everywhere to join us as members of Red Cross. This year marks the Seventy-fifth Anniversary of the American National Red Cross. This Anniversary is a great occasion. Let us celebrate it greatly by giving enthusiastic and generous support.

I have designated the Honorable Douglas McKay, Secretary of the Interior, as Chairman of the Government Unit in the Washington Metropolitan Area. I urge everyone to pledge to Secretary McKay his unqualified assistance.

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

12 ¶ Annual Budget Message to the Congress for Fiscal Year 1957. *January 16, 1956*

To the Congress of the United States:

I send you today the Budget of the United States Government for the fiscal year 1957 which begins July 1, 1956. This budget also includes the fiscal results of all Government operations for the year ended June 30, 1955, and revised estimates for the current fiscal year ending June 30, 1956.

BUDGET TOTALS

[Fiscal years. In billions]

	1955 actual	1956 estimated	1957 estimated
Budget receipts.	\$60.4	\$64.5	\$66.3
Budget expenditures.	64.6	64.3	65.9
Budget surplus (+) or deficit (−). . . .	−4.2	+ .2	+ .4

The budget I am proposing for 1957 is a balanced budget. It is my expectation that the budget will also be in balance for the fiscal year 1956.

Although balanced, the margin of estimated surplus in each of these budgets is slim. This calls for the utmost cooperation be-

tween the executive and legislative branches to prevent increases in expenditures or reductions in receipts that would create a deficit.

The present encouraging budgetary outlook arises from a favorable combination of factors involving both receipts and expenditures. Substantial reductions in Government expenditures have been achieved in the past 3 years. A significant increase in revenues is currently anticipated as the result of our present unprecedented prosperity. In the achievement of this prosperity, the historic 7.4-billion-dollar tax reduction and reform program of 1954—so advisable during the transition to a peacetime economy then taking place—and the confidence born of prudent fiscal and credit management have been strong energizing factors.

Budget expenditures in the fiscal year 1956 are now estimated at 64.3 billion dollars. This is a reduction in Government spending for the third successive year. It is a decrease of 10 billion dollars from the amount actually spent by the Federal Government in the fiscal year which began July 1, 1952. It is a cut of 13.6 billion dollars from the amount proposed in the budget for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1953, submitted to the Congress in January of 1953 before this administration took office.

For the fiscal year 1957, total expenditures are estimated to rise approximately 1.6 billion dollars over the anticipated level for 1956. This increase will be more than offset by the rise in receipts estimated to result from continued growth in the national economy. Efforts to obtain additional economies in Government operations must continue, for the balance achieved in the budget for 1957 is a balance at a high level of receipts and expenditures. The search for additional savings that can be effected while strengthening our security posture and providing essential Government services must be relentless.

We will take full advantage of the proposals of the Commission on Organization of the Executive Branch of the Government, which has completed with high distinction the task of analyzing the activities of the Government. We will continue to give the

taxpayer greater and greater value for each dollar spent. We will continue to foster orderly growth of our economy through sound fiscal policies. The confidence in the future among consumers and businessmen generated by those policies must be maintained.

BUDGET POLICIES

We seek, above all, the attainment of a just and durable peace. Thus, the resources of the world can be directed to building a better life for all people. The people of the Soviet Union and of the countries under its domination are undoubtedly as anxious as the people of other nations to achieve this objective. I regret that the Soviet leaders have not as yet given any tangible evidence of an intention to agree on a plan of disarmament that can be verified by adequate inspection. In the absence of such tangible evidence, we must follow the course reflected in this budget of steadily strengthening the defense of the United States and its allies, so that the free world will remain strong enough to deter possible aggressors or to retaliate immediately and effectively if attacked.

At the same time, the Government of the United States will steadfastly seek all possible ways of further progress toward our goal of peace. We will speed the development of the civilian uses of atomic energy and make the resulting benefits available, under appropriate controls, to other nations for the well-being of mankind. We will propose logical methods for advancing disarmament. We will promote international trade and investment. We will not falter in our cooperative efforts to build the economic, as well as defensive, strength of the free world through the Mutual Security Program.

At home, programs instituted by the Executive and the Congress have helped to nurture an unprecedented prosperity without inflation. Our objective is to foster and encourage conditions in which this prosperity can be sustained and can be more fully shared by agriculture and certain sectors of our industrial econ-

omy. The growth and movement of our population and the complexity of our dynamic society are continually creating needs which must be met if we are to build wisely for the future. For years, many activities which are desirable for fostering sound economic growth have been postponed because of the overriding needs of war and defense.

Defense needs are still overriding and must continue to be met in full measure. However, budget revenues now permit us to undertake some new and expanded programs for enhancing opportunities for human well-being and economic growth. This budget reflects that purpose.

These two national objectives of securing a lasting peace and of sustaining widespread prosperity and well-being are closely linked to our third goal of financial strength and stability.

In the words of Washington's farewell address, we must meet our defense needs by maintaining a respectable posture of defense. There is no magic number of dollars or of military units and weapons that would solve all our defense problems and guarantee our national security. Neither can total mobilization in peacetime be the answer to our defense needs. It is essential to have a stable, long-range defense program suited to our needs which avoids fluctuations in response to transitory pressures.

We are equally well aware that overenthusiastic and ill-considered Government efforts to promote economic development could lead to inflation, and could also choke off private initiative, which is the well-spring of economic development and of a better life. Inflation would bring suffering to the very groups whose well-being the Government would be trying to serve.

With a sense of proportion and with a sound progressive policy, we can continue our sure advance toward our objectives. The results to date of sound financial management so demonstrate. While continuing substantial expenditures for military defense and mutual security, with some increases where needed, we can now propose the expansion of certain domestic programs, and,

at the same time, strengthen our financial position by a balanced budget. But we must make sure that we do not undermine our financial strength by laying the groundwork for future budget deficits.

BUDGET DOCUMENT

A budget is not just a book of figures describing fiscal operations—it is a comprehensive plan of action for meeting our national objectives. As such, it affects every phase of the life and activity of the Nation. It is necessarily complex. Like the plans for a building, the budget must be sketched from various points of view to give a clear idea of its content and composition. Accordingly, despite some repetition, the various items in the budget are classified and grouped in different ways to help in the analysis of their overall significance.

In this section of the budget message, I shall summarize budget expenditures in terms of a few broad purposes and also in terms of their controllability through the budget process. Following this discussion, there are two summary tables setting forth budget expenditures and new obligational authority by major programs and by Government agencies.¹ These tables are followed in the message by a discussion of my recommendations for each of the major programs of the Government.

The detailed part of the budget document which follows the message contains four parts: (1) Additional summary tables¹; (2) detailed appropriation accounts for each agency; (3) information on trust funds and working funds; and (4) a number of special analyses which throw light on the budget from still different viewpoints. These analyses show, for example, the expenditures for Federal credit programs, public works, aid to State and local governments, research, and economic statistics, all of which are common to many programs and agencies.

The detailed schedules and statements of the budget have been

¹ Omitted.

simplified this year to make them more useful to the Congress in general and to the appropriations committees in particular. This simplification has also resulted in reducing the size of the budget document 50 pages and the appendix a further 175 pages.

BUDGET EXPENDITURES

Expenditures by purpose.—When we look at the budget in terms of a few broad purposes, we find that the greatest portion, 64 percent, of the expenditures in the fiscal year 1957 will be for deterring possible aggression and for strengthening the international alliances to which we belong. The next largest part, 21 percent, will be devoted to civil benefits of various kinds. Interest, largely on the public debt, will amount to nearly 11 percent. Expenditures for civil operations and administration are estimated at 4 percent of the total.

BUDGET EXPENDITURES BY PURPOSE

[Fiscal years. In billions]

	1955 actual	1956 estimated	1957 estimated
Protection, including collective security	\$42. 7	\$41. 4	\$42. 4
Civil benefits	13. 7	13. 8	13. 9
Interest	6. 4	6. 9	7. 1
Civil operations and administration	1. 7	2. 1	2. 2
Reserve for contingencies . . . . .		. 1	. 2
Total	64. 6	64. 3	65. 9

Protection, including collective security.—In this summary classification of broad purposes, expenditures for protection include more than the four major national security programs. They embrace the military functions of the Department of Defense, including construction and procurement; the Mutual Security Program; the Atomic Energy Commission; and other programs such as stockpiling, expansion of defense production, civil defense, and our foreign information activities.

EXPENDITURES FOR PROTECTION, INCLUDING COLLECTIVE SECURITY

[Fiscal years. In billions]

	1955 actual	1956 estimated	1957 estimated
Major national security programs:			
Department of Defense—Military Functions.....	\$35.5	\$34.6	\$35.5
Mutual Security Program—military.....	2.3	2.5	2.5
Atomic Energy Commission.....	1.9	1.7	1.9
Stockpiling and defense production expansion.....	.9	.7	.4
Subtotal.....	40.6	39.5	40.4
Related programs.....	2.1	1.9	2.0
Total.....	42.7	41.4	42.4

In planning such great security programs, it is clear that we must never permit ourselves to be panicked by temporary crises or beguiled by a campaign of smiles without deeds. We continue to maintain and to strengthen our national security forces.

This budget provides for increased expenditures for the military functions of the Department of Defense, emphasizing air-atomic power, guided missiles, research and development, continental defense, and the re-equipping of our forces with new types of weapons. Outlays for conventional weapons and for stockpiling will be decreased. Under the Mutual Security Program, budget expenditures in 1957 for military assistance and for economic and technical assistance are estimated at about the same level as in the fiscal years 1955 and 1956. Expenditures for atomic energy, including peaceful applications, will rise in 1957 to a somewhat higher total than for any previous year. I am also recommending an expansion of our foreign information activities so that we can more successfully advance understanding abroad of our policies and their peaceful intent.

Civil benefits.—A great variety of Government programs provide civil benefits and services for the Nation as a whole and for specific groups. They encourage the private development and growth of our economy and provide certain economic safeguards for individuals and groups in order that our dynamic system of free choice may operate effectively in the modern world.

Some of these benefits and services are in the form of public works or loans which add to Federal assets. Expenditures for long-range development, such as those for health research and for grants to States for construction, also lay the foundation for future economic progress and development. However, the bulk of the benefits and services are for current expenses, including veterans' benefits; aids to agriculture; aids and subsidies to shipping, airlines, and the postal service; and grants to States for public assistance and administration of employment offices and unemployment insurance.

EXPENDITURES FOR CIVIL BENEFITS

[Fiscal years. In billions]

	<i>1955 actual</i>	<i>1956 estimated</i>	<i>1957 estimated</i>
Additions to Federal assets.	\$3. 8	\$2. 3	\$2. 4
Long-range development.	1. 7	2. 0	2. 4
Current expense items.	8. 2	9. 5	9. 1
Total.	13. 7	13. 8	13. 9

My recommendations for the fiscal year 1957 under this heading of civil benefits are designed to build for the future by assisting further in the strengthening of agriculture; in the promoting of labor standards; in the building of schools; in the expansion of research and training in science, health, and agriculture; in the modernization of our highways; in the improvement of housing and urban facilities; in the enlargement of our airway traffic capacity; in the replacement of our merchant fleet; and in the conservation of our natural resources.

The estimated expenditure for each of the civil benefits and services represents the best judgment of this administration of what is required and can be used effectively during the coming year to meet our growing needs.

In discharging the responsibility for fostering a growing prosperity that is widely shared, I have been mindful of two principles.

First, we will progress fastest by relying on private initiative

as the mainspring for economic growth and a better life for all. In encouraging economic growth, the Government should act on the basis of enabling private activity to expand and not on a basis of replacing private with public activity. My recommendations, therefore, are designed to encourage private initiative and to contribute toward, or, in some cases, to undertake tasks which private enterprise cannot perform alone.

Second, the interests of our citizens are best advanced by encouraging State and local governments to strengthen themselves and thus keep as much Government responsibility as possible in the States and communities, close to the people themselves. The Federal actions which I am proposing are designed to meet real and pressing needs which most smaller governmental units cannot cope with by themselves. Our endeavor is to help fill the gap between the need for essential services, on the one hand, and the present ability of State and local governments to meet those needs, on the other. Wherever possible and logical, I propose that responsibility and costs be shared by these other governmental units.

A corollary of these two principles is that where Federal action is necessary, it should be taken, if possible, in a way that need not entail large or continuing Federal outlays. For some activities, Federal guaranties will encourage the availability of private credit. For other activities, partnership with private or State and local government interests will multiply the effectiveness of Federal expenditures.

Many services performed and privileges granted by the Government in the public interest also convey a special, added benefit to individuals or groups who can afford to pay for them. In some cases, the services are now provided without charge. In other cases, the fees are substantially below the costs of providing the services. Thus, the general taxpayer is required to subsidize operations which should be self-supporting. The scope and cost of these hidden subsidies have grown considerably during the past decades. I firmly believe in the principle that Government

services which give a special benefit to users should be financed by adequate charges paid by the users.

In furtherance of this principle, I strongly recommend that the Congress enact legislation to increase postal rates so that users are no longer subsidized from general funds.

Civil operations and administration.—Budget items for civil operations and administration are predominantly the traditional expenses of the Government. They are the largest in number but not the largest in amount. They cover the bulk of the expenditures for the legislative branch, the judiciary, and various regulatory activities, as well as the administrative expenses of many cabinet departments and independent agencies. They also include expenses for tax collection and various central management services.

These programs have a greater significance than their small proportion of the total budget would indicate. I am recommending selective increases in appropriations and expenditures for a number of them.

For example, we should increase our representation abroad—particularly in a number of countries with which our relations are becoming increasingly vital. A strengthening of our foreign relations will pay dividends in terms of better mutual understanding and friendship. Likewise, my proposals for reducing the backlogs of cases pending in our Federal courts and before our regulatory commissions will bring benefits greater than their costs. Increased funds for central property and records management will enable us to achieve greater economies in carrying out the other activities of our Government.

Expenditures by controllability.—Another way of looking at and grouping budget expenditures is from the point of view of their controllability through the budget process. Each year when a budget is being determined, a large amount cannot be substantially modified by actions of the executive branch or of the Congress through the appropriations process but only by longer term review and action. In the fiscal year 1957, about one-

quarter of the estimated budget expenditures are dictated by factors not readily subject to administrative discretion through the budget process.

Interest is the largest example of such an expenditure. Most of the other relatively uncontrollable programs, such as agricultural price supports, veterans' compensation and pensions, and various grants to States, are in the field of civil benefits as classified in the previous section.

BUDGET EXPENDITURES INDICATING CONTROLLABILITY

[Fiscal years. In millions]

<i>Description</i>	<i>1955 actual</i>	<i>1956 estimated</i>	<i>1957 estimated</i>
Major national security programs	\$40, 626	\$39, 467	\$40, 370
Major programs which are not readily controllable:			
Veterans' compensation, pensions, and selected benefit programs	3, 519	3, 770	3, 842
Veterans' unemployment compensation . .	106	115	118
Grants to States for public assistance . . .	1, 427	1, 488	1, 478
Commodity Credit Corporation (net) ¹ . .	3, 414	2, 211	1, 694
Removal of surplus agricultural commodities	59	225	265
Conservation of agricultural land resources .	235	220	220
Federal-aid highway grants	595	740	800
Grants to States for unemployment compensation and employment service administration	194	230	255
Payment to the unemployment trust fund .	64	87	81
Claims and relief acts	142	168	185
Payments to Federal employees' retirement funds	30	234	296
Payment to railroad retirement fund for military service credits			2
Unemployment compensation for Federal employees	19	32	33
Legislative and the judiciary	96	135	164
Interest	6, 438	6, 875	7, 066
Total	16, 338	16, 530	16, 499
All other programs	7, 606	8, 273	8, 996
Total	64, 570	64, 270	65, 865

¹ For purposes of comparability, includes expenditures from appropriations to reimburse the Corporation.

NEW AUTHORITY TO INCUR OBLIGATIONS

Before any budget expenditures can be made, the Congress must first authorize Federal agencies to incur obligations. This authority, ordinarily provided in the form of appropriations, may or may not lead to the immediate expenditure of funds. In the case of salaries and the purchase of supplies, the expenditure will ordinarily follow closely the incurring of the obligation. For other items such as ships, aircraft, and complex military equipment, the expenditure may follow the incurring of the obligation by several years.

Unexpended balances of appropriations carried over from prior years ran to nearly 80 billion dollars when this administration took office and represented an enormous backlog of commitments for which expenditures had to be made in the fiscal year 1954 and subsequent years. These balances represented, in effect, c. o. d. orders which had to be paid for in cash when the goods were delivered and constituted a heavy overhanging load for the budget on top of the appropriations being enacted currently.

By the end of fiscal year 1956 we expect to have reduced these balances by well over a third, to below 50 billion dollars, a level believed more reasonable in its relation to actual needs for current operations.

For the fiscal year 1957, requested new authority to incur obligations is about the same as estimated budget receipts and slightly greater than estimated expenditures. However, the backlog of unexpended balances of appropriations will be further reduced as some appropriations enacted in prior years will be allowed to lapse. This continues the policy of the two previous budgets I sent to the Congress, in which I emphasized the importance of actions to eliminate excessive accumulations of unexpended balances, which so frequently invite commitments leading to unnecessary future expenditures.

Of the total new authority I am recommending for the fiscal

year 1957, action by this session of the Congress will be required for 58.3 billion dollars. The remainder consists of previously enacted permanent authorizations under which new authority becomes available each year without new action by the Congress. An example is interest on the public debt.

NEW AUTHORITY TO INCUR OBLIGATIONS

[Fiscal years. In billions]

	1955	1956	1957
Proposed for enactment in this session:			
Recommended at this time.....			\$49.7
Proposed for later transmission:			
Under existing legislation.....		\$0.6	.1
Under proposed legislation.....		.2	8.5
Total.....		.8	58.3
Enacted prior to this session:			
Current authorizations.....	\$49.3	52.7	.....
Permanent authorizations.....	7.8	8.5	8.0
Total.....	57.1	62.0	66.3

LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

I have outlined in my message on the State of the Union the legislative proposals which I consider vital to our continued progress. Detailed recommendations will be presented to the Congress on certain of these proposals. The budgetary estimates for the fiscal year 1957 for my legislative proposals are summarized in the table below.

These estimates cover only the proposals for which financial authorizations cannot be enacted prior to enactment of enabling legislation. Often they supplement programs for which expenditures are included elsewhere in the budget. For example, the amounts shown in the following table for my proposals for strengthening agriculture are only part of the total in the budget for agricultural programs.

Pending final determination of the amounts required for the recommended program for highways, the dollar estimates in-

cluded in this budget under proposed legislation cover only the continuance of the present annual authorization. The new highway program should be soundly financed so as not to create budget deficits.

SUMMARY OF LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS

[Fiscal year 1957. In millions]

<i>Program</i>	<i>Recommended new authority to incur obligations</i>	<i>Estimated expenditures</i>
NEW LEGISLATION		
Agriculture—soil bank and accompanying proposals	¹ \$450	¹ \$400
Area redevelopment	50	10
Atomic energy plant construction	144	40
Bureau of Reclamation and Corps of Engineers projects	46	21
Department of Defense—military public works and personnel incentives (net)	1, 117	200
Flood indemnity	100	25
Postal rate increases	—350	—350
Public health—new proposals	76	24
School construction—general assistance program	376	150
Tennessee Valley Authority steam plants (revenue bonds)	68	24
Other proposals	68	47
Total, new legislation	2, 145	591
EXTENSION OF EXISTING LEGISLATION		
College housing	100	.....
Federal-aid highways and forest highways	808	.....
Mutual Security Program	4, 860	990
Public assistance grants	166	166
School construction—assistance in federally affected areas	88	5
Other proposals	6	29
Total, extension of existing legislation	6, 118	1, 190
Reserve for contingencies	250	225
Total, legislative proposals	8, 512	2, 006

¹ In addition, proposed refunds to farmers of Federal taxes on gasoline used in farm operations are estimated at 60 million dollars in 1957.

BUDGET RECEIPTS AND TAX POLICY

I have already indicated in my State of the Union message the broad outlines of our tax policies. I shall summarize them here.

We have noted that in 1954 reductions in spending made possible—and appropriate in the existing circumstances of transition to a peacetime economy—the largest dollar tax cut in any year in our history. Almost 7½ billion dollars were cut from the sums required of the taxpayers and every taxpayer in the country benefited. Almost two-thirds of the savings went directly to individuals. This tax cut also helped to build up the economy, to make jobs in industry, and to increase the production of the many things desired to improve the scale of living for the great majority of Americans.

The strong expansion of the economy, coupled with a constant care for efficiency in Government operations and an alert guard against controllable waste and duplication, has brought us to a prospective balance between income and expenditure. This is being achieved while we continue to strengthen the military security forces and enlarge services to the public.

To reach a balanced budget in the fiscal year 1956 and in the fiscal year 1957, it will be necessary in addition to continuing everyday efforts to keep spending under control, to continue all the present excise taxes without any reduction and the corporation income taxes at their present rates for another year beyond April 1, 1956.

Based on the extension of these tax rates, budget receipts in the fiscal year 1957 are estimated at 66.3 billion dollars, 1.8 billion dollars higher than in the current year.

BUDGET RECEIPTS

[Fiscal years. In billions]

	1955 actual	1956 estimated	1957 estimated
Individual income taxes.....	\$31.7	\$33.6	\$35.1
Corporation income taxes.....	18.3	20.3	20.3
Excise taxes.....	9.2	9.9	9.9
Other taxes (net of transfers to trust funds)....	2.1	2.0	2.1
Miscellaneous receipts.....	2.6	2.5	2.8
Refunds of receipts (—).....	—3.4	—3.8	—3.9
Total.....	60.4	64.5	66.3

It is unquestionably true that our present tax level is very burdensome and, in the interest of long term and continuous economic growth, should be reduced when we prudently can. It is essential, in the sound management of the Government's finances, that we be mindful of our enormous national debt and of the obligation we have toward future Americans to reduce that debt whenever we can appropriately do so. Under conditions of high peacetime prosperity, such as now exist, we can never justify going further into debt to give ourselves a tax cut at the expense of our children. So, in the present state of our financial affairs, I earnestly believe that a tax cut can be deemed justifiable only when it will not unbalance the budget, a budget which makes provision for some reduction, even though modest, in our national debt. In this way we can best maintain fiscal integrity.

PUBLIC DEBT

On the basis of present estimates, we should be able to end the current fiscal year with a small reduction in the public debt, and a small further reduction is anticipated for the fiscal year 1957.

PUBLIC DEBT

[Fiscal years. In billions]

	<i>1955 actual</i>	<i>1956 estimated</i>	<i>1957 estimated</i>
Public debt at start of year.	\$271.3	\$274.4	\$274.3
Change due to budget deficit (+) or surplus (—)	+4.2	— .2	— .4
Other changes in public debt.	—1.1	+ .1	— .1
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Public debt at end of year.	274.4	274.3	273.8
Public debt subject to legal limit at end of year.	273.9	273.8	273.3

The immediate economic effects of the public debt depend partly on its management. During each year various issues of Government securities become due and refinancing must be arranged. In the past several years, the Treasury has cooperated closely with the Federal Reserve System to assure that the man-

agement of the debt is consistent with our general monetary and credit policies. These actions have helped sustain a sound and growing business activity without inflation or deflation.

The Treasury has also taken steps toward lengthening the average maturity of the debt so as to avoid its becoming concentrated too heavily in short-term issues. Further, the number of financing operations each year has been reduced. These actions lessen the impact of Treasury financing on the market, and give the Federal Reserve System greater freedom in its operations.

Last year the Congress extended through June 1956 a temporary increase during the fiscal year in the statutory debt limit from 275 billion dollars to 281 billion dollars, so that the Treasury could meet its heavy temporary borrowing needs during the first half of the fiscal year 1956, when tax receipts are seasonally low. The Treasury is currently operating within 1 billion dollars of the temporary debt ceiling, and on cash balances that at some periods offer little flexibility in the management of Government finances. Even with a balanced budget in 1956 and 1957, seasonal borrowing in the first half of fiscal year 1957 will temporarily bring the debt above the 275 billion dollar limit. Therefore, a continuation of the legislation allowing a temporary increase during the year in the statutory debt limit is required.

RECEIPTS FROM AND PAYMENTS TO THE PUBLIC

The budget receipt and expenditures discussed so far reflect transactions in funds belonging to the Federal Government. The Government also collects and pays out sizable sums for the various funds which it holds in trust for others, such as old-age and survivors insurance, railroad retirement, unemployment compensation, veterans' life insurance, and Federal employees' retirement.

SUMMARY OF MAJOR TRUST FUNDS

[Fiscal years. In billions]

	1955 actual	1956 estimated	1957 estimated
Balance in funds at start of year	\$44.9	\$45.9	\$48.4
Receipts	9.1	11.2	11.5
Expenditures	8.1	8.7	9.7
Balance in funds at close of year	45.9	48.4	50.2

These trust funds are currently accumulating surpluses because payments into them are being made by a great many more people than are now drawing benefits. The rate of accumulation is gradually declining as more people become eligible for benefits, but will still amount to an estimated 1.8 billion dollars in the fiscal year 1957.

The flow of money between the public and the Government as a whole is shown in the table below by consolidating budget transactions with trust fund transactions and by eliminating intragovernmental payments and receipts. The relationship of receipts from and payments to the public is sometimes used to measure the inflationary or deflationary impact, if any, of Government financial operations on the economy.

RECEIPTS FROM AND PAYMENTS TO THE PUBLIC, EXCLUDING BORROWING

[Fiscal years. In billions]

	1955 actual	1956 estimated	1957 estimated
Receipts from the public	\$67.8	\$73.5	\$75.4
Payments to the public	70.5	71.0	72.9
Excess of receipts from the public		2.4	2.4
Excess of payments to the public	2.7		

An excess of Federal cash receipts from the public is estimated for both the fiscal years 1956 and 1957.

SUMMARY TABLES

The following two pages present tables showing key budget figures on both new authority to incur obligations and expendi-

tures for each major program and for each major agency.¹ These tables are followed by a discussion of the programs covered by the budget, including the legislative recommendations.

MAJOR NATIONAL SECURITY

Budget expenditures for major national security programs in the fiscal year 1957 are estimated at 40.4 billion dollars, 903 million dollars more than estimated for the fiscal year 1956.

To build our military strength effectively and efficiently, peaks and valleys in security spending and in defense production must be avoided. I want to emphasize again the importance of a sound, long-range program which does not arbitrarily assume a fixed date of maximum danger. Military planning must combine present defense with the probable needs of a long period of uncertain peace.

Department of Defense.—During the past 3 years our defense program has been successfully reoriented to reflect the changing nature of the threat to our security, the revised requirements brought about by the end of the Korean conflict, and the increasing availability of new weapons of unprecedented strategic and tactical importance.

This reorientation has been accomplished by developing our defense program on the basis of the following policies and concepts:

1. Gearing our defense preparations to a long period of uncertainty instead of to a succession of arbitrarily assumed dates of maximum danger.
2. Maintaining the capability to deter a potential aggressor from attack and to blunt that attack if it comes—by a combination of immediate retaliatory power and a continental defense system of steadily increasing effectiveness.
3. Developing military forces which minimize numbers of men by making maximum use of science and technology.

¹ Omitted.

4. Relating the number and degree of readiness of major units in the active forces to the practical limitations on the rapid deployment of major military forces from the United States immediately upon the outbreak of aggression, and relying, for the remainder, on ready reserve forces.

5. Utilizing military personnel on active duty with maximum effectiveness so as to hold to a minimum the number of men withdrawn from work in the civilian economy.

6. Concentrating our efforts on those forces which best complement the forces our allies are most capable of raising and supporting.

7. Maintaining a strong and expanding peacetime industrial structure, readily convertible to the tasks of defense and war.

The readjustment of our military forces in line with these principles is providing this Nation with the greatest military power in its peacetime history. My recommendations for the fiscal year 1957 continue the same basic policies and concepts.

This budget provides funds for an average of 2,815,700 military personnel on active duty during the fiscal year 1957. Total military personnel on active duty will increase to 2,838,400 at the end of fiscal year 1957 from the number of 2,814,100 estimated to be on active duty at the end of the current fiscal year. In order to permit flexibility in planning and operations, a military personnel ceiling has been authorized for the fiscal year 1957, totaling 2,906,000, excluding Army cadets, Navy aviation cadets, and midshipmen. However, no increase will be made above the military personnel levels provided for in this budget except upon detailed justification to, and approval by the Secretary of Defense.

During the fiscal year 1957 there will be significant increases in certain combat elements, particularly units employing new weapons and units assigned to continental defense. These increases, together with the continued modernization of the weapons and equipment, will further enhance the combat power and effectiveness of our forces.

My recommendations for the military functions of the Department of Defense for the fiscal year 1957 will require congressional authorizations amounting in total to 35.7 billion dollars. Of this amount, it is proposed that 785 million dollars be provided by transfer of existing authority from revolving funds. Thus, the new authority proposed for 1957 is 34.9 billion dollars, which is 1.8 billion dollars more than the amount voted by the Congress for the current fiscal year. Expenditures are expected to total 35.5 billion dollars, compared with a present estimate of 34.6 billion dollars for the current fiscal year.

The increases in new authority to incur obligations and in expenditures in the fiscal year 1957 reflect, in large part, the cost of keeping our forces modern.

Continued improvements in technology and weapons can be expected and they will tend to increase costs unless offsetting savings can be found. Replacement, maintenance, and operations will require a high level of expenditures in the fiscal year 1957 and for years to come. Therefore, the management of our military programs must have continuing study and scrutiny. Constant efforts must be made to plan carefully in advance, to increase efficiency, and to reduce costs and expenditures.

Military personnel costs for the active forces, which include pay, allowances, subsistence, clothing, and related items, will be the same in the fiscal year 1957 as in 1956.

Retention of trained and experienced personnel is one of the most difficult problems confronting the armed services today. Every reasonable measure must be taken to increase the attractiveness of a service career. Therefore, I am again recommending legislation to provide added incentives for the members of our Armed Forces. My principal proposals are for the uniform provision of medical care for dependents, adequate and equitable benefits for survivors, improved career inducements for medical personnel, and reasonable rentals for those occupying substandard Government quarters. This budget also provides for a proposed

increase in the proportion of career officers to total officer personnel.

The cost of operation and maintenance will rise in the fiscal year 1957, notwithstanding a decrease in the number of civilian personnel. Major reasons for the higher costs are (1) the greater number of air bases, radar sites, and other installations which must be supported in the coming fiscal year, (2) the sizable increase in the numbers of weapons and amount of equipment which must be operated and maintained, and (3) the growing complexity of new weapons and equipment.

Major procurement and production expenditures in the fiscal year 1957 will be about the same as in the current fiscal year. However, there will be a shift in emphasis within this total in line with the policy of modernizing our forces.

Approximately 6.8 billion dollars is estimated for procurement of aircraft, chiefly for the Air Force and the Navy. The accelerated production programs for the B-52 long-range jet bomber and the F-101 and F-104 supersonic interceptors will be continued in the fiscal year 1957. In addition, there will be substantial procurement of the Navy's new supersonic F-8U fighter.

Expenditures for the procurement of guided missiles will be the highest in our history, increasing by more than one-third over 1956 and about double the amount spent for this purpose during 1955.

Expenditures for electronic and communications equipment will remain high during the fiscal year 1957, to meet the needs for continental defense and our combat forces. Expenditures for ammunition, combat vehicles, trucks, and other major equipment items, will continue to decline because our requirements have now been met in large part.

This budget provides for continuation of the Navy shipbuilding program at a slightly higher level than in the fiscal year 1956 in order to carry forward the modernization of the fleet, most of which was built during World War II. In addition to those already authorized by the Congress, there is included in the pro-

posed shipbuilding program for 1957 the construction of a sixth carrier of the *Forrestal* class, additional nuclear-powered submarines, guided-missile destroyers and frigates, and an experimental nuclear-powered cruiser. Provision is also made for developing a practical nuclear powerplant for future installation in ships of the large carrier class. Conversion of ships now in the fleet will be undertaken to provide them with additional nuclear weapons and with guided missile capabilities, and to permit them to operate modern high-speed aircraft.

Military public works will continue slightly below the level of the current year. This budget provides for the construction in the fiscal year 1957 of facilities associated with the continental air defense system, including *Nike* sites; further additions to the aircraft warning systems, including the *Distant Early Warning Line*; guided missile facilities; and air bases for the Navy and Air Force.

Expenditures for our Reserve components in the fiscal year 1957 will be considerably greater than in 1956, reflecting an increase during the year of about 130,000 reservists in drill pay status and further expansion of facilities for the Reserve forces. The number of Reserve personnel engaged in regularly paid drills is expected to increase to 1.1 million by the end of 1957. In addition, this budget provides for 6 months' active duty training under the Reserve Forces Act of 1955 for about 80,000 Reserve forces personnel.

Research and development expenditures will be somewhat higher in the fiscal year 1957 than in the current year. Major emphasis will be placed on projects related to guided missiles, continental air defense, and to the application of nuclear energy for the propulsion of aircraft and ships. It is my belief that increased returns in military research and development can be obtained through a relatively stable program at approximately the present level which can utilize effectively our scientific and technological resources. Military research and development now engages a substantial proportion of the scientists and engineers employed in research and development in the Nation. Care must

be exercised in selecting the projects to be supported, and efforts must be concentrated on those of high priority.

Continued progress has been made during the past year in improving the management of the Department of Defense. The Secretary of Defense is giving careful study to the recommendations of the Commission on Organization of the Executive Branch of the Government and its task forces on defense activities. Some of these recommendations have already been put into effect; in certain other cases, they have been adopted in modified form, consistent with the objectives of the Commission report. Responsibility for supplying all food, which costs 1.2 billion dollars annually, has been placed under the Secretary of the Army. A single food-supply system for bulk procurement and storage will eliminate duplicate storage facilities and costly cross-hauling. The three military departments have also been directed to undertake joint planning and utilization of all the health and medical resources of the Department of Defense.

Financial management has been made more effective by increasing the scope of stock funds. These funds currently cover inventories of over 8.2 billion dollars, and their coverage will be expanded. Stock funds are used to buy supplies and equipment, and to control inventories centrally. Each of the services then meets its needs by purchasing from this central stock. This method makes possible a better distribution of supplies and equipment with a minimum inventory. It encourages cost consciousness throughout each of the services. As a result, in the last 3 fiscal years 2.5 billion dollars have been recovered from the stock funds as inventories were reduced. Further reductions in inventories this year will make available additional surplus capital of 785 million dollars in the Army, Navy, and Marine Corps stock funds. This surplus is applied in this budget to reduce the amount of new authority to incur obligations which would otherwise be required for the fiscal year 1957.

Industrial funds are being used to serve the same kind of businesslike purpose in commercial- and industrial-type installa-

tions. During the fiscal year 1957 industrial fund financing will be extended to additional activities in each of the services. This will greatly increase the volume of business, currently amounting to about 1.8 billion dollars, conducted under such funds.

Civil defense.—The key to our civil defense is the expanded continental defense program, including the distant early warning system. Additional progress has been made in the civil defense program under the Federal Civil Defense Administration, whose expenditures are classified with those for civil disasters in the commerce and housing section of the budget. Comprehensive studies are being conducted jointly by the Federal Civil Defense Administration, the States, and critical target cities to determine the best procedures that can be adopted in case of an atomic attack. Such planning has vital national importance and parallels the necessity for maintaining a strong military establishment.

This budget provides for a strengthened effort on the part of the Federal Government to assist the States and cities in devising the most effective common defense. It includes funds to extend civil defense preparations in more metropolitan target zones in accordance with recent recommendations of a special committee on civil defense. Funds also are included to accelerate procurement of field-type emergency hospitals and increase stockpiles of medical and radiological supplies.

Development and control of atomic energy.—We have long sought and we continue to seek, jointly with other nations, means to banish the threat of nuclear warfare which still confronts the world. Pending a trustworthy agreement, however, we must continue to increase our nuclear weapons stockpile which, together with the means of delivery, is the principal deterrent to armed aggression in the world. At the same time, we shall speed the development of the peaceful uses of atomic energy and make the resulting benefits, under appropriate controls, available to other nations for the well-being of all mankind. To this end we

continue to hope that an international atomic energy agency will be established at an early date.

The United Nations Conference on the Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy at Geneva last summer, which grew out of a proposal by the United States, not only facilitated the exchange of technical information but served to emphasize the great promise of atomic energy for peace.

So that we may further demonstrate this great promise, I recommend again that the Congress take early action to authorize the construction of a nuclear-powered ship, using an atomic propulsion plant already developed, which will carry the message of "Atoms for Peace" to the ports of the world. The Atomic Energy Commission has sufficient funds available for construction and installation of the propulsion plant and machinery, and I shall request additional funds for the fiscal year 1956 for the Department of Commerce for construction of a suitable hull.

Total expenditures for atomic energy in 1957 are estimated at 1.9 billion dollars, 230 million dollars more than in 1956.

Operating expenditures will increase from 1.4 billion dollars in the fiscal year 1956 to 1.6 billion dollars in 1957. Greater quantities of uranium ores and concentrates will be purchased. Production from the Commission's plants will increase but at reduced unit costs as the expanded facilities, soon to be completed, come into full operation. Research and development work in numerous areas, both civilian and military, will be expanded.

Capital expenditures in the fiscal year 1957 are expected to decline somewhat from 1956 levels. I shall propose to the Congress legislation to authorize new construction in 1957, principally for improvements to increase the efficiency, capacity, and safety of production plants and for research and development facilities.

The civilian applications of nuclear energy will receive even greater attention, not only in terms of Government expenditures, but also through the Commission's efforts to stimulate more par-

ticipation and investment by private and public groups, particularly in the development of atomic power. As such participation increases, the share of power development costs financed by the Government should decrease. As part of its encouragement of the development of atomic power, the Commission plans in 1957 to continue specialized training of nuclear engineers and to expand its support of the training of nuclear engineers through fellowships and through provision of specialized training equipment to a number of universities. The Commission will also construct a special reactor for use by the Department of Defense in developing methods for preserving food through irradiation.

Great emphasis is being placed on the development of a larger variety of nuclear propulsion plants. To this end, funds are included under proposed legislation for additional developmental facilities at the National Reactor Testing Station in Idaho.

The Atomic Energy Commission will also step up research on controlled thermonuclear reactions as new discoveries may justify. This program, while long range, gives promise of yet greater dimensions to the potential peaceful uses of nuclear energy.

Continuing progress in basic research is fundamental to further advances in nuclear energy. The Commission will increase in the fiscal year 1957 its support of basic research in the physical and life sciences, including development and design studies of high-energy particle accelerators. The 1957 construction program will include new buildings at three of the Commission's laboratories.

Stockpiling and defense production expansion.—As a result of the financial assistance provided under the Defense Production Act, substantially increased supplies of aluminum, copper, nickel, and other strategic materials are now available both for industry and for the national stockpile. To assure continued flexible authority for mobilization preparedness to meet future emergencies, I recommend extension of the Defense Production Act for 2 years.

An increasing number of stockpile objectives are being filled. Moreover, the high level of industrial activity has reduced the availability of some materials for stockpiling and required diversion of part of the new supply of a few materials to meet shortages in key industries. As a result, net expenditures for the stockpile and for defense production expansion are expected to decline from 713 million dollars in the fiscal year 1956 to 378 million dollars in 1957. No new authority to incur obligations is recommended for the fiscal year 1957, since sufficient authority is already available for continued rapid progress toward completion of established minimum objectives and for limited procurement to maintain essential elements of the mobilization base.

Under the administration's policy of finding constructive uses for our surplus agricultural commodities, strategic materials are being acquired by barter transactions with foreign suppliers. The Department of Agriculture plans to acquire additional strategic materials by barter during 1957. In the fiscal years 1956 and 1957, expenditures amounting to about 65 million dollars will be made under the appropriations for stockpiling to reimburse the Department of Agriculture for materials added to the national stockpile.

Mutual Security Program.—Through the Mutual Security Program we shall continue to work jointly with our friends and allies in building and maintaining the defensive and economic strength of the free world. This long-range program, which includes military, economic, and technical assistance, is essential to our national security. Our assistance supplements the major efforts of other free nations, who themselves are bearing a large proportion of the total cost of our joint efforts. I shall subsequently transmit to the Congress my specific requests for authorization of appropriations for the fiscal year 1957 Mutual Security Program. These requests will cover my recommendations for military assistance and direct forces support, discussed in this section of the message, as well as for economic, technical, and

other programs which are discussed in the international affairs and finance section.

Expenditures for the total Mutual Security Program in the fiscal year 1957 are estimated at 4.3 billion dollars, about 100 million dollars more than in 1956. Recommended new authority to incur obligations is 4.9 billion dollars, an increase of 2.2 billion dollars over the 2.7 billion dollars enacted for 1956. Requested new obligational authority for 1957 exceeds estimated expenditures for 1957 by approximately 600 million dollars reflecting the amount for additional funding of long lead-time items for delivery in future years.

Wherever possible, foreign currency proceeds from the sale of surplus agricultural products abroad under the Agriculture Trade and Development Act will be used to meet mutual security objectives.

Mutual Security Program, military.—The program of military assistance for the fiscal year 1957 is planned primarily to continue equipping and training forces which we have helped develop and strengthen over the past years. Total expenditures for military assistance and direct forces support in the fiscal year 1957 are estimated at approximately the current rate of 2.5 billion dollars annually. To carry forward these programs, I am recommending new obligational authority of 3 billion dollars. Within this amount, 445 million dollars is requested for direct forces support in the fiscal year 1957 to supply items such as petroleum, rations, uniforms, and military construction services directly to the military forces of our allies.

In the fiscal years 1955 and 1956, the backlog of unexpended balances made it possible to maintain an adequate level of expenditures and deliveries while the amount of new authority to incur obligations was reduced. The backlog of unexpended balances for military assistance (including reservations for common-item orders) is being reduced from a total of 7.7 billion dollars at the beginning of the fiscal year 1955 to an estimated 4.5 billion dollars at the end of the current fiscal year. If deliveries of mili-

tary equipment are to be maintained at the current rate, as I believe they must be, this level of unexpended balances should not now be further reduced.

Our planning for the future includes helping to provide modern weapons that the forces which we help support can effectively use. In view of the long lead-time required, funds must be made available in advance so that the necessary negotiations and planning may be undertaken and procurement initiated for complex items such as jet aircraft, missiles, and electronics systems. Hence, for the fiscal year 1957, I am requesting new authority to incur obligations somewhat above the projected level of expenditures. Deliveries of equipment and the expenditure of funds will necessarily be spread over a number of years as defense plans involving modern weapons are completed and as our allies demonstrate their readiness to support a modern defense system adequately.

My recommendations will enable us to provide our NATO partners with the modern defense weapons and equipment which we are furnishing in increasing numbers to our own NATO forces in Europe. Although many European countries are now in a position to finance a greater share of the cost of maintaining their existing forces, they will require continuing help if our common defense effort is to be strengthened by modern weapons and techniques.

About one-half of the fiscal year 1957 program will be concentrated in Korea, Pakistan, Taiwan, and Turkey. The program will provide for necessary replacements and effective maintenance of materiel furnished in past years, and will also permit the further training of existing forces. In addition, we will continue to supply basic military equipment where necessary to strengthen further defensive capabilities in the Far and Middle East. Likewise, we will continue to provide moderate amounts of equipment to help maintain certain military units of our friends in Latin America who are cooperating in the development of hemispheric defenses.

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS AND FINANCE

The international programs which I am recommending for the fiscal year 1957 will vigorously carry forward our fundamental national policy to maintain peace and help build a strong, prosperous, and unified community of free nations.

During this past year, the United States has made positive new proposals aimed at relaxing international tensions. But it remains clear that the search for lasting peace will require patience, strength, and continued vigilance.

We will persist in exploring every possible means of solving the difficult problems which continue to divide the world. Meanwhile, we must further strengthen and improve the system of collective security. Moreover, it is of the utmost importance that, in cooperation with other free nations, we proceed steadily with long-range, positive programs to sustain and improve the conditions of human well-being which are necessary if peace with freedom is to endure.

To accomplish these objectives, I am proposing expenditures of 2.1 billion dollars in the fiscal year 1957 for our international programs.

Mutual Security Program, economic.—My recommendations for continuing military assistance under the Mutual Security Program were discussed previously, and the amounts involved were included as part of our major national security activities. Some of the countries to which we provide military assistance, however, do not have the economic capacity to support effective defensive forces which are necessary to our mutual security. We must continue to provide assistance to such countries to enable them to support the greater defensive strength that is our common goal. It is particularly important that we continue to help those nations which require assistance in order to participate effectively in regional collective security arrangements, notably those in Asia. This budget, therefore, includes funds for carrying on the defense support program in critical areas in southern Europe, the Middle East, South Asia, Southeast Asia, and the Far East.

The development of military strength as a deterrent to aggression, however, meets only a part of the challenge which faces the free world. Because the conditions of poverty and unrest in less developed areas make their people a special target of international communism, there is a need to help them achieve the economic growth and stability necessary to preserve their independence against Communist threats and enticements.

For our assistance to be as effective as possible, it must be based upon a realistic appraisal of potentialities for economic development and a careful determination of priorities among the many pressing needs in the less developed areas. My recommendations for the Mutual Security Program include funds for continuing selective loans and grants to certain less developed countries following experience gained in past years.

I am also recommending continuation of the worldwide technical cooperation program at a slightly increased level. Technical cooperation is an indispensable element in the successful attack which is being made on the basic problems of hunger, disease, and illiteracy. Through the efforts of American experts working in cooperating countries and by the training of foreign technicians in the United States, the knowledge and experience of our people are being shared in a cooperative effort to solve fundamental problems in health, education, public administration, agriculture, and industry which confront less developed countries. By these means we are helping to provide the skills which are required for economic development. In addition to continuing our own technical cooperation program, my recommendations provide for our annual contribution to the expanded technical assistance program of the United Nations and to the similar work of the Organization of American States.

We shall also continue and expand in the fiscal year 1957 our international program to provide training in the peaceful uses of atomic energy. Funds for this purpose are included in this budget as part of the Mutual Security Program.

Provision should be made for further contributions for the relief and rehabilitation of refugees from Palestine. In view of the current unrest in the Near East, our continued support is essential both for humanitarian reasons and to assist in achieving peace and stability in the area.

The budget also includes amounts for the escapee program and for contributions to the Intergovernmental Committee for European Migration and the United Nations Refugee Fund, which aid in the relief and resettlement of refugees from behind the Iron Curtain and in emigration from Europe.

I shall recommend effective flexibility in the use of funds under the Mutual Security Program to enable us to respond to new situations which may arise. I also consider it essential that the Mutual Security Act be amended to assure greater continuity in providing economic assistance for development projects and programs which we approve and which require a period of years for planning and completion. Accordingly, I shall ask for limited authority to make longer term commitments for assistance for such projects, to be fulfilled from appropriations made in future years.

In furtherance of our basic foreign economic policy objective of stimulating international trade and investment, I am requesting a review of existing legislation to determine whether changes will be necessary to permit an expansion of the investment guaranty program. Under this program, private United States investors may be guaranteed against loss of their foreign investments or earnings through expropriation or inconvertibility of foreign currencies. The number of private investors and foreign governments participating in this program has steadily increased. We also need to encourage investment overseas by avoiding unfair tax duplications, and to foster foreign trade by further simplification and improvement of our customs legislation.

Export-Import Bank.—The Export-Import Bank is assisting in the expansion of international trade and investment through

direct loans and guaranties of private loans. Its loan and guaranty commitments are estimated at 960 million dollars in the fiscal year 1957, an increase of 255 million dollars over the previous year. Because of greater participation in loans by commercial banks and other sources of private capital, direct Federal disbursements in the fiscal year 1957 are estimated at less than one-third of the total new commitments. Repayments on loans made in prior years are expected to exceed disbursements from Export-Import Bank funds, thus providing estimated net receipts of 100 million dollars. Sales of portions of the existing loan portfolio to private financial institutions may increase this return.

Foreign information and exchange activities.—The present international situation has made the work of the United States Information Agency increasingly vital to our national interest. I consider it of paramount importance that we expand our effort to bring the truth before the people of the world, explain our peaceful objectives, and show in its true light the Communist attempt to divide and destroy free world unity.

To this end, I strongly recommend that appropriations for our information program be increased by 48 million dollars from the level in the current fiscal year. This increase will provide for expanded use of overseas exhibits and other techniques to emphasize such subjects as our Atoms for Peace program, our proposals for mutual aerial inspection as a first step toward disarmament, and the many scientific and cultural achievements by which progressive capitalism under free, representative government is contributing to a peaceful, prosperous world. Overseas libraries will be expanded, and increased emphasis will be given to supplying books to foreign readers at low prices. Where appropriate, the program will capitalize on the effectiveness of television.

I am recommending a modest increase in appropriations for the educational exchange programs of the Department of State which constitute a basic element of our long-term effort to attain a better mutual understanding with other peoples of the world.

These programs bring to this country leaders of public opinion and facilitate the mutual exchange of students, teachers, and research scholars. In addition to appropriated funds, part of the foreign currencies received from the sale of surplus agricultural commodities abroad will be used to meet certain overseas costs of educational exchange.

With the financial support of the President's Emergency Fund for International Affairs, we have sponsored, in cooperation with private industry, agricultural and industrial exhibits at international trade fairs which have effectively demonstrated the achievements of private enterprise in a free economy. Similarly, our cultural achievements have been presented throughout the world by American actors, dancers, and musicians during the past year. These trade fair and cultural presentations have been enthusiastically received abroad and have contributed significantly to a better understanding of our values and objectives as a nation. In view of the effectiveness of these activities, legislation will be recommended to authorize them on a continuing basis.

Conduct of foreign affairs.—The Department of State is not now adequately equipped with either the staff or facilities which are required if it is to provide the timely, informed, and coordinated policy guidance which is vital to the success of our total international effort. I strongly recommend, therefore, that the Congress enact the requested increase of 89 million dollars in the appropriations for the Department of State for the fiscal year 1957.

A substantial part of this increase is for construction of an extension to the present Department of State building. This extension will permit all the Washington staff of the Department, including the International Cooperation Administration, to be accommodated in a single building rather than scattered, as at present, among 30 separate buildings. In addition, my recommendations include funds to cover costs in the first year of a long-range program to provide adequate physical facilities, in-

cluding housing, for our diplomatic and consular establishments abroad.

Steps are already underway to strengthen the staff of the Department. This budget provides for further improvements, as well as for carrying forward the recruitment, training, employee benefit, and other programs initiated during the past 2 years. Increases are also proposed to permit the prompt and efficient discharge of our expanding consular responsibilities and to provide for the collection of more comprehensive commercial and economic data needed by American businessmen and Government agencies.

To provide for closer international economic cooperation and continued expansion of United States trade abroad, it is particularly important that our membership in the Organization for Trade Cooperation be approved. While this will not alter congressional control of our tariff, import, and customs policies, it will help us to remove discriminations against American exports and further strengthen our ties with other nations of the free world.

VETERANS' SERVICES AND BENEFITS

The greatest portion of budget expenditures for veterans is for direct benefits, such as compensation and pensions, indemnity payments, readjustment benefits, and hospital and medical care. These direct benefit costs have been increasing. At the same time overhead costs are being reduced through improved administration.

Budget expenditures for veterans' programs are estimated to total 4.9 billion dollars in the fiscal year 1957, 86 million dollars more than in 1956 and 422 million dollars more than in 1955.

We now have more than 22 million veterans. When benefits for dependents and survivors are considered, nearly one-half of our population is potentially entitled to veterans' benefits.

Therefore, continuing and careful attention must be given to veterans' services and benefits. These services and benefits will

be increasingly significant as the veteran population ages, because benefit entitlement resulting from non-service-connected infirmities associated with advancing age will replace eligibility for service-connected benefits as the major factor in the cost of veterans' programs.

The Congress and the public will want to join with this administration in giving careful consideration to the findings of the Commission on Veterans' Pensions which I appointed to study this problem. This Commission, which will report later this year, is reviewing thoroughly the relation of the existing non-medical programs for veterans to each other and to the numerous civil benefits which the Nation now provides for the aged, the needy, the infirm, and the disabled—both veterans and others.

Steps to relate military service survivor benefits to old-age and survivors insurance benefits are already underway in a bill pending before the Congress. The additional cost of this legislation for those receiving veterans' benefits is provided in this section of the budget. The estimates of military expenditures, under proposed legislation, include an amount to cover the Government's share, as employer, of the old-age and survivors insurance contribution.

Readjustment benefits.—A year ago, I issued a proclamation terminating accrual of eligibility for various wartime benefits. While it is still necessary to draft individuals for service in our Armed Forces, this service at present imposes neither the hazards of conflict nor as serious a disruption of education and other preparation for civilian life as was imposed upon our combat servicemen. The forthcoming report of the Commission on Veterans' Pensions will provide a useful framework for further consideration of the needs of our servicemen for readjustment benefits under present conditions.

The program of readjustment benefits for World War II veterans is drawing to a close. World War II veterans will account for less than 7 percent of the 1957 readjustment expenditures of the Veterans Administration. For most of these veterans, unem-

ployment compensation rights ended July 25, 1952, and educational programs will cease July 25, 1956. The ending of the loan guaranty program on July 25, 1957, will bring to a close a third major program. In each case, the law has set a termination date which establishes a proper balance between the nature of the benefit and a reasonable time for using it.

The timeliness and aptness of our veterans' readjustment programs are attested in many ways. Under the "GI bill," 7.8 million World War II veterans have received education and 4.5 million have acquired homes. Practically all World War II veterans have assumed their civilian status in our economy and share equitably in the general prosperity. As a group, they have made the transition from military to civilian life and do not require extension of these readjustment benefits. For those few individuals who have not completed the change to civilian life in 10 years, approaches other than veterans' readjustment benefits seem to be indicated.

The education and training of Korean veterans will account for the bulk of the readjustment benefit expenditures during 1957. The average of 540,000 veterans in training under this program during the year will be the highest for any year.

Loan guaranty expenditures are estimated to increase slightly, requiring 38 million dollars for acquisition of properties and for losses on defaulted loans. It is expected that 640,000 new loans, totaling 7.3 billion dollars, will be guaranteed or insured during the fiscal year. As in the past, nearly all will be for housing. This program will continue until 1965 for veterans of the Korean conflict.

Veterans who served in the Armed Forces during the period June 27, 1950, to January 31, 1955, are eligible for unemployment compensation under Federal law. These benefits are estimated at 118 million dollars in the fiscal year 1957.

Compensation and pensions.—The most important elements in the continuing upward trend in expenditures for veterans' programs are compensation and pensions. Under existing legisla-

tion, significant increases in the cost of these direct payments may be anticipated annually until the end of this century, when payments may be twice their present yearly total of nearly 3 billion dollars. This long-term outlook arises chiefly from the very large number of veterans who may become entitled to pension benefits not connected with disabilities arising from their service.

In the fiscal year 1957, expenditures are estimated to increase 119 million dollars as a result of three factors. The largest is the increased number of pensions paid to veterans of World War I and their dependents. These pensions are non-service-connected benefits granted widows in financial need or needy veterans with disabilities which prevent them from following a substantially gainful occupation. Expenditures for these programs have doubled since 1950 and may double again in the next 5 years if the current trend continues.

Recently discharged veterans of the Korean conflict and of peacetime service who have service-connected disabilities are a second source of growth in compensation and pension expenditures. It is estimated that about 35,000 new cases will be added to the disability compensation rolls during the next fiscal year.

Third, under the pending legislation to provide old-age and survivors insurance benefits to survivors of military personnel, many widows and children now receiving veterans' benefits would be eligible for increased compensation payments. These increased benefits would be partially offset by decreased payments from the veterans' indemnity and insurance appropriations. In the fiscal year 1957, the net additional expenditures are estimated at 30 million dollars, but in subsequent years this amount is expected to be somewhat lower.

During the fiscal year 1957 almost 3 billion dollars of compensation and pensions will be paid to approximately 2.8 million veterans, plus the survivors of over 850,000 deceased veterans. More than 10 percent of the veterans of World War II will be receiving compensation payments totaling 1 billion dollars for service-connected disabilities. About 20 percent of the veterans

of World War I will draw non-service-connected pensions in the fiscal year 1957. The possible trend is indicated by the fact that 85 percent of the living veterans of earlier wars will draw such pensions.

Hospitals and medical care.—Veterans' hospital and medical expenses will continue to rise through the fiscal year 1957 as the number of patients in Veterans Administration hospitals is expected to increase 1.4 percent over 1956 to a daily average of 111,500. Almost two-thirds of these hospital patients and most of the 17,000 veterans in Veterans Administration homes are receiving treatment for conditions which are not related to their military service.

Outpatient care, which is only for service-connected conditions, is expected to be somewhat below the levels of 1955 and 1956. The number of medical and dental examinations and treatments is estimated to be 2,398,000 in 1957, a decline of 20,000 from 1956.

I recommend the enactment of 53 million dollars of new authority to incur obligations for construction and improvements at Veterans Administration facilities. About one-half of this amount is for urgently needed replacement of a major part of one mental hospital and for preparation of architectural plans for replacement of four 500-bed general medical hospitals. The other half provides for additional modernization and improvement work at existing facilities.

Insurance and servicemen's indemnities.—Budget expenditures under this heading are primarily for indemnities to survivors of servicemen who die during active duty and for reimbursements to the life insurance trust funds for claims traced to military hazards. These expenditures are estimated at 80 million dollars in the fiscal year 1957. This amount is substantially lower than in 1956, when a large number of insurance settlements were made for servicemen previously reported missing during hostilities in Korea.

Trust funds.—Insurance protection of over 38 billion dollars is provided through nearly 6 million national service and United States Government life insurance policies. The number of these policies in force has steadily declined, as issuance of additional insurance was ended in 1951. During the past calendar year, 25,000 policies matured and 319,000 were terminated.

Transactions of these trust funds are excluded from budget receipts and expenditures. For the fiscal year 1957, cash receipts will exceed disbursements on policies held by World War II veterans, while benefit payments will exceed premiums on insurance held by the older age groups. The net accumulation is reserved for future claims.

LABOR AND WELFARE

The labor and welfare programs of the Government contribute notably to the achievement of our objectives of greater human well-being and a growing economy. These programs are designed to promote individual opportunity and foster self-reliance by assisting in the improvement and protection of people's health, the promotion of education and research, the training and placement of workers, the rehabilitation of the disabled, and the provision of security against economic want.

Most of the labor, health, education, and welfare services are administered by the States and their subdivisions. In fact, four-fifths of the 3 billion dollars of budget expenditures estimated for labor and welfare in the fiscal year 1957 is for grants to State and local governments. Outside the regular Federal budget, substantial benefits are provided through the social insurance and retirement trust funds.

Budget expenditures for labor and welfare in the fiscal year 1957 are an estimated 228 million dollars greater than in the current fiscal year, and 442 million dollars higher than actual expenditures in 1955. The increase in 1957 stems largely from my proposals to strengthen and expand education, health, and

research services substantially. These budget recommendations will contribute greatly to the well-being of all our people, both through those activities which relate directly to individuals and families and those which operate indirectly through improved community services and private enterprise.

In some instances, legislation will be required. My legislative recommendations therefore include measures to authorize assistance to States for building schools, for promoting occupational safety, and for reducing juvenile delinquency; a broad program for improvement of the Nation's health; completion of the program of poliomyelitis immunization grants to States; continuance of the present Federal formula for grants for State public assistance payments, with adjustments for old-age insurance benefits in certain cases; and further expansion of coverage of the old-age and survivors insurance system.

Under existing laws, I am recommending increased appropriations directed mainly to the expansion of medical research, greater support for basic scientific research and training, enlargement of protective and preventive services in the fields of health and welfare, improvement of our labor and manpower services, and construction of hospitals and other necessary health and research facilities.

Labor and manpower.—Recently enacted legislation has resulted in substantial improvements in the economic safeguards for workers. Minimum wages set by Federal law have been raised from 75 cents to 1 dollar an hour, and coverage of the Federal-State unemployment compensation system has been extended to employees of small firms and of the Federal Government. This budget provides for the enforcement and administration of these improvements.

To improve economic safeguards further, I recommend that the Congress extend the protection of the minimum wage law to additional workers. The facilities of the executive branch will be available to assist the Congress in finding ways of achieving this goal. Legislation is also needed to raise benefits and provide

more funds for rehabilitation under the federally administered Longshoremen's and Harbor Workers' Compensation Act. In addition, a system of benefits for workers who are temporarily disabled from nonoccupational causes should be established in the District of Columbia. This budget also provides for studies by the Department of Labor to assist the States in improving their workmen's compensation laws.

In addition to improved workmen's compensation, we need effective measures to advance occupational safety. Therefore, I recommend that the Congress enact a new program to provide technical aid and limited financial assistance to the States for promoting occupational safety.

The current high level of general prosperity spotlights the adverse economic plight of low-income rural areas and of urban areas with persistent unemployment. As part of government-wide efforts to alleviate these problems, additional work will be done in the labor and manpower field. This will include the designation of areas eligible for special assistance, the provision of labor market information, and vocational advice for individuals.

The 1957 budget recommendations for grants for administration of the employment services and unemployment insurance provide for stepping up job counseling and testing in the public employment offices. For example, job counseling interviews will be increased from 1.6 million in the fiscal year 1956 to 2 million in 1957. These increased activities are aimed at better utilization of our labor force—with particular emphasis on placing the older and the handicapped workers in jobs most suitable for them. Procedures for taking and reviewing unemployment compensation claims will also be improved. In addition, the budget estimate covers increases by the State governments in salary rates for the State employees who administer this program.

The Federal payment to the unemployment trust fund is estimated at 81 million dollars in the fiscal year 1957. This is the part of the Federal unemployment tax collections during the

fiscal year 1956 which it is estimated will not be used for the unemployment insurance and employment service program. Almost 50 million dollars of this payment will be used to complete a reserve of 200 million dollars available for loans to States which deplete their own reserves for benefit payments. About 32 million dollars will be credited to the unemployment trust accounts of the States.

During the current year significant improvements were authorized in our labor and manpower statistics programs. This budget provides, at minor additional cost, for further improvements, particularly in the consumer price index and in reports on labor turnover and current employment.

Public assistance and old-age and survivors insurance.—Grants to the States for old-age assistance and aid to dependent children, the blind, and the totally disabled are estimated at 1.5 billion dollars in the fiscal year 1957, the largest expenditure item in the welfare category of the Federal budget.

Our welfare policies have a twofold emphasis: To provide basic economic protection for older people and for widowed mothers and children through self-sustaining social insurance; and, where possible, to prevent need as well as to relieve it. My budget recommendations for both existing and proposed programs reflect this emphasis.

Old-age and survivors insurance—financed through a trust fund outside the regular budget—is now providing benefits at a rate of more than 5 billion dollars a year to more than 6 million persons over age 65 and to 1½ million mothers and children. The number of beneficiaries is growing. More than nine-tenths of all employed persons in the country are now insured. Legislation should be enacted to bring in the groups still excluded—for example, employees of the Federal Government.

For a large group of needy people not receiving OASI benefits, public assistance remains the only public resource. One out of every three people over 80 years of age is on the public assistance rolls, as compared with only about 1 in every 10 in the age group

65 to 69 which, for the most part, has the insurance protection. To avoid hardship to present public assistance recipients, I propose that the present formula for determining the Federal share of assistance payments be temporarily extended. This will allow time to reappraise the need for the present high level of the Federal contribution to public assistance as the effects of the recent strengthening of old-age and survivors insurance protection become more fully apparent. Meanwhile, to reflect the fact that more and more people are becoming eligible for old-age and survivors insurance benefits, I recommend legislation to fix at 50 percent the Federal share of supplementary old-age assistance payments by the States to beneficiaries of this insurance who are added to the assistance rolls after the fiscal year 1957.

The Federal Government should also do more to assist the States to adopt preventive measures which will reduce need and increase self-help among those who depend upon public welfare. Likewise, special provision should be made for improving medical care of public assistance recipients through legislation to permit separate Federal matching of State and local expenditures for this purpose.

Promotion of public health.—One of the most important goals of this administration is to assure continued progress in research, training, and provision of health facilities so that the medical professions can help the American people to enjoy better health. To this end I am proposing a substantial, yet orderly, expansion of our existing health services and new measures necessary to fill significant gaps in the Nation's programs for promoting good health.

I again urge the Congress to act favorably and promptly on recommendations made last year to provide mortgage insurance for the construction of health facilities, to train health personnel, to expand mental health programs, to abate water pollution, and to strengthen State and local public health services.

In addition, provision should be made to assist the extension and improvement of health insurance protection for our people. The

Congress has taken no action on my legislative proposals to meet these objectives. The Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare is working on plans whereby private insurance organizations generally may pool risks to cover abnormal losses possible under broader health plans, and, if necessary, appropriate permissive legislation will be recommended. Should this approach not be successful, a Federal reinsurance service should receive renewed consideration.

I recommend also that the Congress enact legislation to authorize Federal assistance for the construction of medical and dental research and teaching facilities. Expansion of these facilities is necessary to provide for a continuing increase in the medical research program of the Nation, and will help our hard-pressed medical and dental schools to provide better training for more students.

The law providing for a poliomyelitis immunization program, which was enacted last year, should be extended beyond its present expiration date of February 15, 1956. This budget includes, under proposed legislation for the fiscal year 1956, the necessary funds to complete the program of grants to assist States in the immunization of children and expectant mothers.

Special services are needed to promote the health of our Indian population and to assist the Territory of Alaska in dealing with the problem of mental health. I recommend legislation to authorize construction of sanitation facilities on certain Indian reservations and tribal lands. Legislation should be enacted also to transfer to the Territorial Government of Alaska responsibility for care of the mentally ill, with temporary Federal aid for building and operating treatment centers.

I recommend the transfer of Freedmen's Hospital to Howard University, with provision for construction of a new teaching hospital.

For health legislation proposals, the total of additional expenditures in the fiscal year 1957 is estimated at 44 million dollars.

Under presently existing legislation, budget expenditures for public health programs other than the poliomyelitis vaccination grants are estimated at 395 million dollars for the fiscal year 1957. A major increase of 24 million dollars is proposed for the research and training activities of the National Institutes of Health. Grants to States for construction of hospitals and other health facilities will increase by 18 million dollars, and the recommended appropriation will result in further increases in later years. As part of our policy of strengthening enforcement of the food and drug laws I am recommending a substantial increase for the Food and Drug Administration. In addition, I am recommending increased appropriations to attack the problem of air pollution; to expand grants to States for child welfare services; and to expand health services to Indians, including construction of three hospitals. These increases are partly offset by reduced construction expenditures, primarily for the District of Columbia hospital center.

Promotion of education.—The educational problems of the Nation are acute. School enrollments are growing. Classrooms are overcrowded. We do not have enough teachers.

Americans are demonstrating their increased concern with these problems by working together now, more than ever, in parent-teacher organizations and other citizen groups. Members of these groups—many of which participated in the recent White House Conference on Education—have stressed the need for measures by all levels of Government to improve our schools.

As a principle of our governmental system, we believe in State and local responsibility for public education. This means not only local direction of public schools but also local financial support augmented by the States. States and communities have made definite progress toward meeting our educational problems. They are reducing the classroom shortage by building an increasing number of schools each year. But we still lack more than 200,000 classrooms. In order to increase further the number of

new buildings completed over the next 5 years, I propose that the Federal Government supplement the current efforts of the States and their subdivisions in financing public school construction.

In continued recognition of the special school enrollment problems created in many communities by military and civilian activities of the Federal Government, I am recommending extension for 2 years of the authority for providing assistance in paying for new school buildings in federally affected areas. Under present law no applications can be received after June 30, 1956. An additional appropriation of 88 million dollars for the fiscal year 1957 is recommended for the proposed extension. With the enactment of legislation to authorize general Federal assistance for school construction, the necessity for the further extension of special Federal aids for construction and for maintenance and operation in these school districts will require reconsideration.

The United States Office of Education, through its advisory services and its research and statistics, affords another channel whereby the Federal Government can aid in the improvement of our schools. I am recommending a substantial increase for the fiscal year 1957 in the budget of the Office, mostly for the new cooperative research program authorized by the Congress, which will assist the States in their efforts to deal effectively with educational problems.

An increase of 4 million dollars in estimated expenditures for the education and welfare of our Indian population will make it possible to complete the necessary staffing of schools and to increase the number of Indians relocated in urban areas.

General-purpose research, libraries, and museums.—Because of the direct importance of basic research to our defense program and our national welfare and economic progress, this budget proposes a substantial increase in Federal support of general-purpose research and education in the sciences. This increase is considered by our national security and scientific research agencies

to be vitally necessary. Even with this added support, basic research will constitute less than 10 percent of the Government's annual investment in research and development.

For these reasons, I recommend that the appropriation for the regular activities of the National Science Foundation be substantially increased from 16 million dollars in the current fiscal year to 41 million dollars in the fiscal year 1957. This will enable the Foundation to extend an additional 13 million dollars of support to meritorious basic research projects in colleges and universities; will provide 7 million dollars for the construction of special-purpose facilities needed for basic scientific research, including the Nation's first major radio astronomy center; and will make available an additional 5 million dollars for expanding the Foundation's experimental program designed to improve science teaching in our schools and colleges and to encourage a greater number of able students to enter careers in science.

A supplemental appropriation for the Foundation of 28 million dollars will be required in the current year to complete financing of the United States program for the International Geophysical Year. The additional amount is mainly for the earth-circling satellite project, in which the Department of Defense is also participating.

Also fundamental to science is the work of the National Bureau of Standards. Increased expenditures of 4 million dollars are recommended in the fiscal year 1957 to strengthen research in the physical sciences and to plan new buildings to replace present inadequate research facilities.

For the Bureau of the Census, I am recommending appropriations for collecting needed data on two important aspects of our national life. The census of governments will provide, for the first time since 1942, comprehensive financial information about the more than 100,000 State and local government units. The national housing inventory will measure the significant changes in the Nation's housing supply which have taken place since 1950.

Expenditures for the Census Bureau as a whole will decline, however, as work on the current censuses of agriculture, business, manufactures, and mineral industries draws to a conclusion.

In addition to necessary operating funds for the Smithsonian Institution, I am recommending an appropriation of 34 million dollars for the construction of a Museum of History and Technology authorized at the last session of the Congress. This museum, the first new Smithsonian building to be federally financed in more than 40 years, will permit for the first time an adequate permanent display of collections which now far exceed the capacity of existing buildings.

Correctional and penal institutions.—Construction of two new prison institutions is required to help ease overcrowded conditions in existing penitentiaries and to provide for youthful offenders and more adequate custody of the most dangerous and troublesome prisoners. These new facilities account for almost all of an 18-million-dollar increase over 1956 in appropriations requested for the Federal prison system.

Other welfare services.—The school lunch program is supported with surplus commodities as well as by regular appropriations. Increased efforts in the removal of agricultural surpluses are expected to result in a greater distribution of such foods to schools, reaching an estimated value of up to 130 million dollars in the current fiscal year. These increased efforts will continue in the fiscal year 1957. Additionally, the recommended direct appropriation of 83 million dollars for the school lunch program for the fiscal year 1957 will provide the same level of such expenditures as in 1955 and 1956.

This Nation still has hundreds of thousands of disabled citizens who should be restored to productive employment and thereby helped to achieve economic independence. This budget continues full support of the expanded State-Federal vocational rehabilitation program at a rate which will permit the States to continue enlarging their rehabilitation services as rapidly as their own funds permit.

Another growing social problem of concern to the entire Nation is juvenile delinquency. During the last 8 years there has been a 60-percent increase in the number of children appearing before our courts. The States and communities need technical assistance and financial aid to help them halt this trend. I therefore renew my request that Congress enact legislation promptly to authorize Federal aid to the States for strengthening their services for prevention and treatment of juvenile delinquency.

Social insurance and retirement trust funds.—Unemployment insurance, old-age and survivors insurance, railroad retirement, and Federal civilian employees' retirement are financed from trust funds, the transactions of which are not included in budgetary receipts and expenditures. The balances in the funds, now about 40 billion dollars, are invested in Government bonds.

Increased coverage in the old-age insurance program, increases in the interest paid to this trust fund, and improved coordination of income and old-age insurance tax collection procedures are recommended elsewhere in this message. The estimates of trust fund receipts and disbursements for the fiscal year 1957 do not reflect proposed legislation.

AGRICULTURE AND AGRICULTURAL RESOURCES

This budget carries forward the broad agricultural objectives that we have been striving to achieve through new legislation, redirection of emphasis, and improved administration during the past 3 years. It provides for the strengthened agricultural program which I proposed in my recent special message to the Congress.

Thus, this budget permits an intensification of our efforts to aid farmers in making the difficult readjustment from the abnormal situation of the war and postwar period to a realistic peacetime outlook for markets, so that they may share more equitably in the prosperity which other sectors of the economy are now enjoying. It also provides for continued emphasis on research and educational activities and on soil and water conservation,

and for an enlarged program to help low-income farmers improve their situation.

Gross budget expenditures for agricultural programs are estimated at 9.1 billion dollars in 1957. These expenditures include loans made and commodities purchased by the public enterprise agencies in the Department of Agriculture and the Farm Credit Administration. Receipts from agricultural programs, which reflect loan repayments and commodity sales of these public enterprise agencies, are estimated at 5.7 billion dollars in 1957. The resulting estimate of net budget expenditures is 3.4 billion dollars, about the same as estimated for 1956.

New authority to incur obligations of 2.9 billion dollars is recommended for the fiscal year 1957, as compared with 3.3 billion dollars in 1956. Excluding the Commodity Credit Corporation, new authority to incur obligations for agricultural programs will be 621 million dollars higher in 1957 than in 1956.

Most of the increases are for the new measures which were set forth in detail in my recent special message on agriculture. New authority to incur obligations of 450 million dollars is included under proposed legislation primarily for that part of the program dealing with the soil bank. This includes an acreage reserve to reduce current and accumulated surpluses of crops in most serious difficulty, and a conservation reserve to achieve other needed adjustments in the use of agricultural resources. In addition to reducing production of surplus crops and shifting land to more desirable uses, it will aid farmers in financing the transition to a farming pattern appropriate for today's markets.

The budget also provides funds for other measures recommended in the special message. These measures are mainly for strengthening and redirecting existing programs. They include stepped-up purchasing and distribution of perishable commodities which are temporarily in excess supply; a strengthened program for disposal of surplus stocks of staple commodities; a strengthened rural development and credit program for low-income farm families; additional research emphasizing both

lower costs of production and new products and markets; and the program for farm improvement and better land use in the Great Plains States.

I am also recommending new legislation to permit refunds to farmers of Federal taxes on gasoline used in their farm operations. It is estimated that tax refunds to farmers under this legislation will amount to 60 million dollars in 1957.

Taken together my new proposals will entail new outlays of 500 million dollars in the fiscal year 1957.

Stabilization of farm prices and farm income.—Programs to stabilize farm prices and farm income account for over 60 percent of the estimated gross budget expenditures for agriculture and agricultural resources in the fiscal year 1957. The principal part of these expenditures is for the price support operations of the Commodity Credit Corporation. Gross expenditures for these operations, reflecting new price support loans and purchases of commodities during the year, are estimated at 5.1 billion dollars. Applicable receipts from repaid loans and sales of commodities will amount to 3.5 billion dollars, leaving net expenditures of 1.6 billion dollars. In recent years receipts have been substantially less than new outlays, and inventories of the Commodity Credit Corporation have been rising steeply. On October 31, 1955, CCC loans and commodity inventories amounted to 7.7 billion dollars as compared with 6.6 billion dollars a year earlier.

Government support of farm prices above world prices under programs which were attuned to war and were too long continued has been a major cause of the present accumulation of farm surpluses. These now overhang the market and create uncertainty and great concern on the part of the producers. World War II, with its terrible losses and destruction, enabled the liquidation of our prewar surpluses, and the Korean conflict helped to liquidate those that accumulated after the end of World War II. But the sharp rise of world prices during these

war periods, together with our high rigid price supports, encouraged expansion of production throughout the world.

The chief domestic beneficiaries of our price support policies in the past have been the 2 million large highly mechanized farming units representing about 35 percent of our farms but producing about 85 percent of our agricultural products. Under the price support program that has been functioning the greater proportion of the dollars go to the largest producers; in the case of wheat, for example, approximately three-fourths of the loan dollars go to one-third of the borrowers. Individual cotton loans in excess of 1 million dollars have been made.

We should today resist new efforts to have the Government restore high rigid price supports which would aggravate the problem. The Agricultural Act of 1954 and the new programs recommended in my special agricultural message are designed to make a broad frontal attack on the surplus problem without repeating our previous mistakes of stimulating production beyond available markets and thus piling up price-depressing surpluses.

In contrast to expenditures, the price support operations of the Commodity Credit Corporation should be reviewed from the standpoint of losses actually sustained in the disposition of commodities. In the main, these losses represent the difference between commodity acquisition and storage costs on the one hand, and receipts from sale of the same commodities on the other. Since the commodities usually are not sold in the same fiscal year in which they are acquired, realized losses for a year are not the same as the net expenditures for that year. In the fiscal year 1955, realized losses amounted to approximately 800 million dollars, of which more than one-half were losses on dairy products. Estimated future losses on the loans and commodity inventories the Corporation held at the end of that year are 2.4 billion dollars, of which about two-thirds represent anticipated losses on corn and wheat.

As a nation, we have in the past and, if necessary, will in the future provide substantial sums of money as a part of our efforts

to have farmers share more fully in the prosperity of the country. But farmers know that Government money alone will not do the job. Furthermore, farmers do not want to be dependent on Government assistance. They want the opportunity to obtain a better living standard for their families through their own efforts. The Government's responsibility is to help create the conditions in which farmers can have this opportunity.

We intend to continue our vigorous efforts to find markets at home and abroad for our present surpluses of farm commodities.

The Agricultural Trade Development and Assistance Act of 1954 was amended in the past session of the Congress to permit an increase from 700 million dollars to 1.5 billion dollars in the amount of loss that the Corporation might incur in sales of commodities for foreign currencies. Agreements negotiated up to December 31, 1955, under this law provide for disposition of commodities worth 504 million dollars at market value, which in many cases is substantially below amounts paid the farmers. The actual loss cannot be calculated until the foreign currencies are used. Additional agreements which may amount to as much as 385 million dollars are under negotiation.

The International Wheat Agreement, a multilateral agreement between wheat importing and wheat exporting countries of which the United States is a member, expires on July 31, 1956. The desirability of extending this agreement is under study and a determination will be made at a later date. This budget assumes that wheat exports during the 1956-57 marketing year will total about 275 million bushels and that most of this wheat will move at world prices under federally assisted programs.

Expenditures under the permanent appropriation for the disposal of surplus agricultural commodities are expected to be substantially higher in the fiscal years 1956 and 1957 than in 1955, consistent with our determination to stand ready with purchase programs to remove temporary market gluts whenever serious ones occur, and to utilize effectively the surplus com-

modities acquired. Our present pork buying program, which was started in November of last year, is an example.

While our special efforts to expand exports and our increased purchases of perishable commodities have an important place in our overall agricultural program, they should not be expected to take the place of vigorous competition for markets, based on price and production adjustments. My recommendations for new legislation, increased research and education, and the further operation of the Agricultural Act of 1954 will all contribute to this first line of attack on the agricultural surplus problem.

Rural electrification, rural telephones, and farm credit.—The budget recommendations for the Rural Electrification Administration represent a continuation of our policy of making loans available to meet the farmers' needs for electrification and telephones. The budget provides for approval of loans for electrification in the amount of 185 million dollars in 1957, which is the same as that for 1956 and 20 million dollars higher than in 1955. It also provides for approval of loans for rural telephones in the amount of 80 million dollars, the same as for 1956, and 27 million dollars higher than for 1955. Disbursements on loans and expenditures for administration for both programs are estimated at 239 million dollars, 16 million more than in 1956.

The total of Farmers' Home Administration direct and insured loans is expected to approach 260 million dollars in 1957 as compared with 193 million dollars in 1955. A substantial part of this expansion is in insured private loans, which are not reflected in budget expenditures. Legislation will be proposed to broaden the authority under the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act to permit the Farmers' Home Administration to make certain loans for farm housing previously possible only under title V of the Housing Act of 1949, as amended. With this change, further extension of the authority for farm housing loans under title V beyond its present termination date of June 30, 1956, will not be necessary.

Several agencies will increase their participation in the Rural

Development Program that I recommended in my special message during the past session of the Congress. This program will be conducted broadly as well as in selected counties, and will involve special educational work by the cooperative Federal-State Extension Service, research on farming and marketing problems of low-income farmers by Federal and State agencies, and assistance in providing employment information by the Department of Labor. To assure adequate funds and to permit broader coverage in the financing of small farms, I am recommending an additional 15 million dollars of lending authority for the Farmers' Home Administration under proposed legislation.

Consistent with our policy of withdrawing the Federal Government from activities that can more properly be carried on privately, legislation was recommended and enacted last year providing for systematic retirement of the Federal investment in the banks for cooperatives which are supervised by the Farm Credit Administration. Although the effect of this legislation on the budget will be small, it is expected that farmers through their cooperatives will be able to acquire, over a period of years, the present equity of the Federal Government in these credit institutions.

Agricultural land and water resources.—My recommendations for agricultural land and water resources for the fiscal year 1957 are an integral part of a broad program designed to give additional emphasis to conservation of our natural resources. They provide for an increase in the regular services of the Soil Conservation Service and for the expected growth in the relatively new watershed protection and flood prevention program. The soil bank program proposed in my special agricultural message will contribute also to our conservation objectives.

Expenditures under the existing agricultural conservation program assist farmers in applying soil conservation practices and in making proper use of land diverted from the production of surplus crops. Payments to farmers in the fiscal year 1957 will be principally to cover the cost of the program carried out for

the crop year 1956, as authorized in the 1956 appropriation act. I recommend a forward authorization of 250 million dollars for the 1957 crop year agricultural conservation program—the same level as for 1956.

Research and other agricultural services.—My budget recommendations provide for further expansion of research, mainly in cooperation with State agencies. Additional funds requested for educational activities will permit greater concentration of effort on direct counseling of individual farmers in the development of programs for their entire farms; also, on the educational phases of our Rural Development Program for low-income families.

The budget includes funds for the recommendations on research and education in my special message on agriculture. The seriousness of the production adjustment and income problems of American agriculture arising from increased production at home and abroad and from declining prices of major agricultural commodities requires that we materially strengthen selected areas of research in agriculture.

NATURAL RESOURCES

Resource development is the responsibility of everyone. In many cases State, local, and private groups can best carry out needed programs themselves. In other cases, Federal participation is the necessary element in accomplishing broad national aims, where projects are beyond the means or needs of local groups. Under the partnership policy of this administration, emphasis is placed on sharing the cost of projects with the groups which receive direct benefits from them. This approach serves to multiply the effect of Federal expenditures in the stimulation of conservation and development. The recommendations in this budget will result in further advances toward our broad goal of a steadily growing program for resource development through the cooperative efforts of States, local communities, private citizens, and the Federal Government.

The importance of the partnership policy in the development

of water resources is being emphasized in a report of the Advisory Committee on Water Resources Policy. This report will also stress the need for strengthening our procedure for the formulation and review of proposed water resources projects. Some of the Advisory Committee's recommendations will require changes in existing law, and specific legislative proposals will be transmitted to the Congress.

Budget expenditures for natural resources programs in the fiscal year 1957 are estimated at 1 billion dollars, about the same level as in 1956. Programs for flood control, reclamation, and multiple-purpose water resources development will expand over the 1956 levels and will require about 60 percent of the net expenditures in 1957. The management and development of the national forests, parks, public domain lands, and Indian lands will require about 25 percent of the total. The remainder will be for minerals programs, fish and wildlife resources, and other developmental activities.

In addition to their economic returns, many resource development programs yield financial receipts. These receipts come mostly from sale of power generated at Government facilities, sale of timber from national forests and public lands, and mineral leases on public lands including the Outer Continental Shelf. Some of the receipts are used to finance current operations and are applied against the gross expenditures of the agency; these are estimated at 266 million dollars in the fiscal year 1957. Other receipts, estimated at 544 million dollars in 1957, are deposited directly in the Treasury, and are then shared with States and counties as authorized by the Congress, appropriated for specific Federal programs, or added to the general revenues of the Government.

Land and water resources.—The policies underlying recommendations for water and related land resources in this and other sections of the budget are intended to help provide an adequate water supply for our people in the years to come and to aid in checking destructive forces of water, as well as to achieve the

benefits for navigation, fish and wildlife conservation, and recreation resulting from the proper development of these resources.

A large share of the net expenditures of 690 million dollars for land and water resources in 1957 will be for continuation or completion of construction on water resources projects of the Corps of Engineers and Bureau of Reclamation, and for maintenance and operation of existing facilities.

These agencies will continue construction in 1957 on 187 projects and units for flood control, beach erosion control, irrigation, and multiple-purpose developments which will provide such additional benefits as hydroelectric power, municipal water supply, or navigation. Funds recommended for these projects will maintain present construction schedules on power projects and will continue nonpower projects at economic rates of construction. Under the recommendations in this budget, 10 of these projects and units can be completed.

In accordance with the policy of encouraging non-Federal responsibility for water resources projects, with Federal cooperation where national interests are involved, I have supported legislation which would change certain presently authorized Federal projects to partnership projects. Funds for the Federal share of the Markham Ferry project in Oklahoma were appropriated for the fiscal year 1956, and construction by non-Federal interests of this project and the Priest Rapids project in Washington is expected to be underway in the fiscal year 1957. Work on the Cougar multiple-purpose project in Oregon, begun as a Federal project in the fiscal year 1956, will continue in 1957 on a basis which, under pending partnership legislation, will permit local interests to install power facilities and assure adaptation of the power features to requirements of the city of Eugene.

This budget provides for starting construction on a number of new projects which are already authorized and on which advance planning has reached the stage where the design and scope of the major structures have been clearly determined, a firm estimate of

cost has been prepared, and a current analysis of economic justification shows a favorable relationship between benefits and costs.

A supplemental appropriation is recommended for 1956 to enable the Corps of Engineers to accelerate its flood-control work in the Northeastern States and to reimburse the Corps for expenditures made for relief work following the floods in August and October 1955. The supplemental appropriation will allow 5 flood-control reservoirs to be started in the fiscal year 1956. Additional flood-control projects for this area are included in the budget for 1957.

The Corps of Engineers is also actively engaged in emergency repair work, in cooperation with the Federal Civil Defense Administration, in the far western flood areas, and will be appraising without delay the need for additional flood-protection measures.

For the fiscal year 1957, I recommend that the Corps of Engineers start work on 18 local flood-protection projects, 11 flood-control reservoirs, 2 beach erosion projects, and a new power plant at the Fort Peck Dam in Montana, all of which are authorized. I also recommend that the Bureau of Reclamation start work on 4 authorized projects or major features to provide irrigation benefits and to utilize available power at existing dams. The total cost of these authorized projects recommended for starting in the fiscal year 1957 is estimated at 189 million dollars, with first year expenditures of 10 million dollars.

Some steps have been taken by the Congress to enact legislation authorizing the Bureau of Reclamation to construct the Upper Colorado River Basin and the Fryingpan-Arkansas developments. These comprehensive developments are needed for irrigation, power, flood control, and industrial and municipal water supply and are beyond the capacity of local initiative, public or private. I again urge their authorization and have made provision in this budget under proposed legislation for their initiation. I also recommend authorization and funds for the Bureau of Reclamation to initiate 3 other projects for further devel-

opment of water resources in the West. The estimated total cost of the 5 proposed projects is 1.1 billion dollars, with 1957 expenditures estimated at 9 million dollars.

This budget includes 20 million dollars under proposed legislation to enable the Corps of Engineers and the Bureau of Reclamation to participate, in 1957, in new partnership water developments, such as the Green Peter-White Bridge Reservoir in Oregon, the Bruces Eddy Reservoir in Idaho, and the John Day Reservoir in Washington and Oregon. The proposed legislation would also authorize the Bureau of Reclamation to assist local organizations by means of loans and grants for small reclamation projects.

Budget recommendations provide for progress in the collection of basic data on hydrology, topography, and other physical factors needed in the planning and design of water development projects. Investigations of proposed projects and advance planning of authorized projects will go forward at rates which will provide for the orderly development of needed water resources.

I also hope that the Congress will complete action to authorize a new survey to determine whether hydroelectric power can be economically developed from the tides at Passamaquoddy Bay in Maine, and have included 1 million dollars under proposed legislation to begin this survey in the fiscal year 1957.

The Bonneville Power Administration will continue construction of transmission lines based on power generation schedules for Federal dams under construction in the Pacific Northwest. Expenditures of the Southeastern and Southwestern Power Administrations will be for operation and maintenance of transmission systems and for marketing power.

The Tennessee Valley Authority will continue work in the fiscal year 1957 on steam-electric generation units started in 1955 and prior years, under previous appropriations.

Since nearly all major hydroelectric sites in the Tennessee Valley have now been developed, an additional steam-electric unit at the John Sevier plant and two additional units at the

Johnsonville plant will be needed to meet currently anticipated power loads through the calendar year 1958. There is pending before the Congress legislation which the administration has proposed for financing steam-power facilities of the TVA through the sale of revenue bonds. So that the work may begin promptly, a starting supplemental appropriation for 1956 is recommended for the Sevier unit. Items are included in the budget to finance the continuation of this work and initiate construction of the Johnsonville units in 1957 with the proceeds of the revenue bonds.

When these new units are completed, the Tennessee Valley Authority will have a capacity of 6.7 million kilowatts in its steam-electric plants and 2.7 million kilowatts in its hydroelectric plants.

Construction will also begin in the fiscal year 1957 on a new navigation lock at Wilson Dam. The present locks are structurally weak and inadequate to handle growing traffic demands. The construction will be financed from appropriated funds. The TVA will also continue work in the development of the resources of the region in cooperation with State and local agencies.

Under these recommendations, gross expenditures of the Tennessee Valley Authority in the fiscal year 1957 are estimated to decline by 57 million dollars from the 1956 level, as construction nears completion on power facilities underway. Receipts from operation are expected to increase by 9 million dollars. As a result of these trends, it is estimated that the Authority will have net receipts of 27 million dollars in 1957 as compared with net expenditures of 39 million dollars in 1956. It is expected that in 1957 the TVA will return to the Treasury 75 million dollars from power revenues as repayment of principal only on Treasury advances made in earlier years for construction of power facilities.

National forests and other public lands.—Funds are provided in this budget to expand forestry research and soil conservation work on the lands in the national forests, public domain, national parks and wildlife refuges, and on Indian lands which are held

in trust by the Government. Increases are also provided for timber sales and mineral leasing activities on Federal and Indian lands. These recommendations will result in increased receipts from management of public lands.

The recommendations for the National Park Service will provide additional facilities and services to meet more adequately the requirements of the constantly increasing number of visitors, which will approximate 54 million in 1957. These recommendations move toward realization of a comprehensive development plan to make possible the accommodation of the estimated 80 million persons who will use areas of the national park system by 1966.

Increases are recommended for more adequate operation and maintenance of fish hatcheries and wildlife refuges, and for maintenance and repair of physical facilities of the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

Mineral resources.—This budget gives recognition to the recommendations of the Cabinet Committee on Minerals Policy. The Bureau of Mines and the Geological Survey will expand investigations and research directed toward discovery of additional sources of essential minerals, improvement of mining techniques, and better utilization of mineral supplies. Funds are provided for the Office of Minerals Mobilization to continue to develop and evaluate supply data for metals and minerals so that adequate supplies and production facilities will be assured for our national security and economic growth.

COMMERCE AND HOUSING

The major role of commerce and housing programs is to encourage economic growth and the development of private enterprise and local communities.

Toward this goal, I am proposing both legislative action and increased appropriations to improve and expand our basic transportation facilities, especially the Interstate Highway System, the

Federal airway system, the federally operated waterways and navigation aids, and the merchant fleet.

Similarly, to assure continued high levels of residential construction we shall encourage private financing primarily through the use of Government guaranties, insurance and other aids. As in the past, direct Government expenditures will be confined to meeting those housing and community needs which cannot be financed by private enterprise alone. Accordingly, to stimulate balanced development of local communities, this budget makes further proposals for removal and prevention of slums, for housing for minority groups and for older people, and for other special community needs. It also provides for new measures to aid local communities with persistent unemployment in discovering a sound basis for redevelopment, and to help victims of future flood disasters rehabilitate themselves.

Gross expenditures for commerce and housing, including proposed legislation, are estimated at 6.3 billion dollars in the fiscal year 1957. Applicable receipts, chiefly for the Post Office and for various housing programs, are estimated at 4.2 billion dollars. Net budget expenditures of 2.1 billion dollars will be less than in 1956 because of the increases in postal rates which I am again proposing.

Highways.—Obviously, a greatly improved highway system is vital for both economic development and national defense, as well as to reduce traffic deaths and injuries. The Federal Government has a special interest in completing as early as possible the 40,000 miles of the Interstate Highway System, which connects major centers of population and industry. Last February in a special message to the Congress I endorsed the recommendation of an advisory committee that the Federal Government assume the principal responsibility for financing completion of this key highway network. This program is even more urgently needed today.

I consider it essential that construction of the interstate system be fully authorized now as a single integrated program in order

that it may be accomplished over a period of approximately 10 years with the greatest economy. I am confident that the expanded program can be soundly financed so as not to create budget deficits.

Pending final determination of the amounts involved for the Interstate Highway System, therefore, the dollar estimates included in this budget under proposed legislation cover only the continuance of the present annual level of 875 million dollars in authorizations for Federal-aid highways including 175 million dollars exclusively for the interstate system. The budget also includes 22.5 million dollars for forest highways, continuing the present level.

Expenditures for highways by the Department of Commerce and the Department of the Interior under previous authorizations will continue to rise to an estimated 844 million dollars in 1957. These include additional grants under a supplemental authorization of 10 million dollars which I am proposing for the fiscal year 1956 in order to rebuild Federal-aid highways damaged in last year's widespread floods.

Promotion of aviation.—During the past 5 years, the rapidly expanding use of the Federal airway system and the increasing speeds of both conventionally powered planes and military jet aircraft have produced serious traffic congestion. To maintain our high standards of safety, aircraft have had to be delayed or flights canceled, with a resulting heavy cost in time and money to both the operators and users of the planes.

As a step in meeting the immediate problem, I am recommending new authority to incur obligations of 40 million dollars in 1957. This will enable the Department of Commerce to expand further the capacity of the present airway system by installing greatly improved air navigation and traffic control facilities.

To keep pace with further advances in aviation, I shall shortly initiate a comprehensive study of the Nation's long-range needs for aviation facilities. This study will take into account both

civil and military needs in order to avoid costly duplication of equipment and systems. I shall expect it to point the way to the development, installation and operation of the most efficient and economical air navigation system within the capabilities of our technology.

In addition to the expenditures to expand the capacity of the airway system, expenditures for operating the present airway system must rise substantially to handle the expanding traffic, to operate new facilities provided under earlier appropriations, and to take over from the Department of Defense the costs of operating certain radar installations serving common military-civilian needs. Federal grants to help local communities build airports are also increasing as a result of the legislation enacted last year. In total, expenditures of the Civil Aeronautics Administration will rise by an estimated 50 million dollars to 200 million dollars in the fiscal year 1957.

Subsidy payments by the Civil Aeronautics Board to commercial airlines will again be reduced in the fiscal year 1957 as a result of rising profits of the carriers and continued vigilance of the Board in keeping subsidy rates at the lowest possible level. These subsidies amounted to 58 million dollars in the fiscal year 1955 and are estimated at 34 million dollars in 1957.

The research achievements of the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics are making possible significant advances in the capabilities of our military aircraft and guided missiles. However, increased effort is needed for timely solution of the problems of flight at faster speeds, higher altitudes, and longer ranges. Accordingly, I am again recommending an increase in the appropriations for this important work.

Promotion of water transportation.—The Department of Commerce and the shipping industry have begun systematic replacement of the merchant fleet built during World War II. Negotiations are now underway with the operators to advance their ship construction plans and to determine replacement schedules for the next 15 to 20 years. Three long-term contracts have

already been signed. The program is designed to (1) assure a modern merchant fleet adequate for commercial and defense needs, (2) maintain the shipyard employment and facilities which are essential to our mobilization base, and (3) minimize construction costs by avoiding peak demands. As next year's installment, I am recommending the funds necessary for construction subsidies and defense allowances for 22 new ships, as well as trade-in allowances for the ships replaced. In addition, this budget proposes appropriations for the design and construction of two new types of cargo ships—types which could be produced cheaply and in quantity in event of mobilization.

I am renewing for the fiscal year 1956 my earlier recommendation for a supplemental appropriation of 13 million dollars for the Commerce Department's share of a nuclear-powered peace ship, to be built jointly with the Atomic Energy Commission. Work on this ship should go forward as rapidly as possible. Moreover, funds are included in the budget for a nuclear-powered merchant ship, to be built over a longer period, incorporating experience gained from the peace ship and from later research and development.

To finance construction of both conventional and nuclear-powered ships, I am recommending new authority to incur obligations for the Department of Commerce of 165 million dollars in the fiscal year 1957. Because of the long lead-time required for ship construction, only a small part of this new authority will be spent in 1957; the anticipated expenditures of 75 million dollars are mainly from appropriations made for ship construction in earlier years. Operating subsidy payments of 124 million dollars in 1957 are estimated to cover the differences in selected costs between operating American-flag and foreign ships.

Expenditures for navigation aids and facilities are rising as projects recently initiated reach active construction phases. In addition to providing for continuation of work by the Corps of Engineers on 61 projects started in prior years, this budget in-

cludes funds for starting 41 new authorized navigation projects including 28 small projects costing less than 150,000 dollars each.

Funds were added by the Congress to the 1956 budget to begin construction of Eufaula Reservoir and Dardanelle lock and dam. This would, in effect, commit the Federal Government to a cost of over 1 billion dollars for the development of the Arkansas River for navigation, since the major benefits from these two structures would not be realized until the entire navigation development is completed. I regard the development of the Arkansas River for navigation as not being of sufficiently high priority at this time to justify this large financial commitment. Therefore, I am not requesting funds for continuation of work on these two structures.

Postal service.—The Post Office Department is progressing steadily toward its goal of a better postal service at lower costs. Decentralization of management into 15 regions, first recommended in 1908, has finally been accomplished, permitting decisions by experienced field personnel able to understand the needs of their customers. Changes in laws and personnel policies have encouraged better use of staff and brought new incentives for employee efficiency. Overhaul of the Department's fiscal operations has eliminated nearly 5,000 needless positions, speeded up information required for good management, and reduced backlogs of all types, including a 2-year backlog in overdue railroad and airline claims. We have begun to acquire, through long-term leases and the recently enacted lease-purchase authority, modern postal buildings and other facilities long needed to speed up and reduce the cost of handling the ever-increasing volume of mail.

Despite these achievements, the Post Office Department cannot be self-sustaining if it pays salaries, transportation rates, and other costs based upon 1956 conditions, but must continue to charge rates which were largely determined before Pearl Harbor. The postal deficit of 467 million dollars estimated for the fiscal year 1957 represents a subsidy averaging more than 15

cents per dollar of postal service. Legislation is again being proposed that would initially increase postal revenues by 350 million dollars a year. Legislation is also being proposed to pay the Department for services to certain groups which it is now required to perform either free or at greatly reduced rates.

I urge prompt congressional action on this legislation, which will drastically reduce the 1957 postal deficit and will make it possible for the postal service to become self-supporting in subsequent years.

Community development and facilities.—The great population growth in the past 15 years and the accompanying shifts—from farms to cities, from rural communities to metropolitan areas, and from central cities to suburbs—have accelerated the decay of large sections of our major cities, and caused many metropolitan areas and small towns to outgrow their basic facilities.

With the help of Federal grants and loans for slum clearance and urban renewal, major progress in removing urban blight is in sight for the first time. By the end of the fiscal year 1957, an estimated 233 communities will have workable plans providing for a wide range of local actions needed to prevent or eliminate slums. Such plans are now required as a condition of Federal assistance for urban renewal. In these and other cities 49 specific projects will have been completed by the end of 1957; 237 other redevelopment projects will be actively underway; and 112 projects will be in the planning stage. Net expenditures, chiefly for grants and loans, will increase to 74 million dollars; these include the additional grants for community planning by metropolitan areas and smaller cities under legislation that will be proposed to increase the present limited program.

Substantial increases are also expected in the fiscal year 1957 in loans to small communities for building public facilities and in advances to local governments for planning public works. Additional appropriations for planning advances are recommended for 1957.

As part of the new program to assist in the industrial redevelopment of chronic labor surplus areas, I am proposing revisions in the present urban renewal and other community facilities legislation. The main emphasis in these programs, however, should continue to be improvement of the homes and living environment of our families.

Public housing.—Continued Federal assistance for low-rent public housing will be necessary in 1957 to meet the most critical needs of low-income families. An increasing number of such families will be displaced by the clearance of slums and by the enforcement of housing codes under the growing urban renewal program. I am, consequently, recommending that the Public Housing Administration be authorized to enter into annual contributions contracts with local housing authorities for an additional 35,000 dwelling units a year for 2 years. In addition, I urge that the Congress restore the provisions of the Housing Act of 1954, repealed in 1955, which limited new public housing to communities with workable programs for the prevention and elimination of slums, or with slum clearance projects underway.

As the number of older people in our population has increased, action to meet their special housing needs has become highly important. Several administrative steps have already been taken in the public housing program. In addition, legal restrictions on admission to public housing projects should be amended to provide a limited preference to elderly low-income families, as well as to permit admission of elderly single persons.

Gross expenditures for public housing programs, chiefly for construction loans and payment of annual contributions to local housing authorities, are estimated at 598 million dollars in 1957. Receipts, mostly from private refinancing of Federal loans, are estimated at 515 million dollars, leaving net expenditures of 83 million dollars.

Other aids to housing.—Applications for insurance of mortgages and home improvement loans by the Federal Housing Administration under its regular programs are expected to continue

in the fiscal years 1956 and 1957 close to the 1955 levels. In addition, applications for the special urban renewal mortgage insurance authorized by the Housing Act of 1954 are expected to rise from less than 2,000 units in 1955 to 75,000 units in 1957.

To make this full program possible, legislation will be required to increase the present mortgage insurance authority. The authority to insure home improvement loans, now scheduled to expire on September 30, 1956, should be made permanent and broadened to assure effective Federal assistance in the national campaign to rehabilitate and modernize existing housing. Amendments are also needed to encourage construction of private units for rental or sale to elderly persons.

The Department of Defense expects to arrange for financing and construction of 100,000 military housing units during 1956 and 1957 under new mortgage insurance authorized by the Housing Amendments of 1955. This insurance authority should be extended beyond the present expiration date of September 30, 1956.

The Federal National Mortgage Association will make commitments for immediate or deferred purchases of 423 million dollars in mortgages insured under the urban renewal, armed services, cooperative, and other especially urgent housing programs which I have specifically designated. Sales of mortgages together with repayments and other receipts, however, are expected to be 255 million dollars greater than expenditures.

In addition, purchases of mortgages by the Association under its secondary market program are expected to increase in 1957 to 290 million dollars. Except for temporary Treasury loans, the funds required will be obtained from sale of debentures and stock to private investors, and the purchases are shown as trust expenditures, rather than budget expenditures. By the end of the fiscal year 1957, private purchases of stock will have made an excellent start toward the goal of replacing a Government activity with a private company.

One of the most successful measures authorized by the Housing

Act of 1954 is the Voluntary Home Mortgage Credit Program. Under this program, applications to the Veterans Administration for direct loans and to the Federal National Mortgage Association for mortgage purchases are referred to private lenders. This program has already made conspicuous achievements in encouraging private financing of housing for members of minority groups and other borrowers in credit-short areas. Moreover, the rapidly increasing volume of veterans housing mortgages placed privately has made it unnecessary to use a large part of the additional authority provided for direct housing loans. Net expenditures for the veterans loan program, consequently, are expected to show only a minor increase to 71 million dollars in the fiscal year 1957.

College housing.—The Housing Amendments of 1955, which broadened and increased the authority for college housing loans, also reduced the maximum interest rate to $2\frac{3}{4}$ percent and required use of private financing only if it were available at the same low interest rate. As a result, the Government is required to make long-term loans at a lower interest rate than the rate at which it can borrow for comparable maturities.

These amendments have eliminated all possibility of private financing, which cannot compete with these interest rates, save for the earliest maturities of tax-exempt issues. Many larger institutions, which previously obtained private funds at reasonable rates, have now filed applications for Government loans. Net reservations of funds are estimated to increase from 21 million dollars in 1955 to 211 million dollars in 1956 and 120 million dollars in 1957, exhausting the available lending authority. Most of the impact on expenditures will not be felt until 1958.

The Federal Government should help colleges and universities meet the urgent housing problems which rapid growth in enrollment will produce over the next decade. The program, as revised in 1955, however, does not serve the best interests of either the colleges or the taxpayers. For the sake of a modest

saving in interest costs, it would destroy the promising private market for these obligations. This private market will be sorely needed, for the Government cannot be expected to supply the full or even the greater part of the estimated 2 to 4 billion dollars needed for dormitories over the next decade. The administration is accordingly recommending legislation which will increase the total authorization by 100 million dollars for 1957, but allow interest rates adequate to cover costs to the Government. I hope that this will encourage private lenders to reenter this expanding market.

Other aids to business—present programs.—In addition to other appropriations required to finance the broad range of existing aids to business, I am recommending increased appropriations for the Patent Office in the Department of Commerce to begin a systematic 8-year program that would reduce the backlog of patent applications to a more reasonable level. I believe that the Congress should also enact legislation increasing patent fees so that the Patent Office can be more nearly self-supporting.

Through the Small Business Administration, we shall continue to help small business concerns obtain access to adequate financing, to a fair share of Government procurement, and to competent counsel on management, production, and marketing problems.

I also recommend improvements in construction statistics so that more accurate data can be supplied to business, labor, and government on major changes in this vital industry.

Area redevelopment.—All of us are greatly concerned because certain chronic labor surplus areas are not sharing in our general prosperity. The primary responsibility for promoting the economic redevelopment of these areas rests with the local community and the States. However, I believe that the Federal Government should give much broader assistance than is possible under present law. Accordingly, the administration is recommending new legislation authorizing Federal loans and grants, in cooperation with the States, to assist communities suffering from

substantial and persistent unemployment. Under this program the Secretary of Commerce would take the lead for the Federal Government, utilizing also the facilities of the Department of Labor, the Housing and Home Finance Agency, and other interested agencies.

Regulation of commerce and finance.—As our economy grows and becomes more complex, the responsibilities of Federal agencies regulating business also increase. While the amount of money required to finance these agencies is relatively small, their influence on economic growth is very significant. In this budget I am recommending increased appropriations to strengthen every major regulatory program, including specific increases to (1) triple the staff of the Federal Trade Commission charged with enforcing controls over corporate mergers; (2) assure effective review by the Department of Justice of possible antitrust aspects of the newly authorized interstate compacts for the conservation of oil and gas; (3) provide for more adequate review by the Securities and Exchange Commission of the vast new capital offerings and the increased trading in securities; and (4) improve enforcement by the Interstate Commerce Commission of motor carrier regulations and assure better compliance with safety regulations.

To continue the export controls necessary for our national security, the existing legislation should be extended.

Disaster insurance, loans, and relief.—The flood disasters during the past year in the Northeastern States, the Far West, and other areas have shown the urgent need for increased assistance to the victims of floods. Since private insurance is not generally available, legislation should be enacted authorizing, on an experimental basis, an indemnity and reinsurance program, under which the financial burden resulting from flood damage would be carried jointly by the individuals protected, the States, and the Federal Government. The budget includes an estimate of 100 million dollars of new authority to incur obligations to initiate such a program.

I am requesting a supplemental appropriation of 25 million dollars in the current fiscal year to replenish the disaster relief fund which was depleted as a result of the recent flood disasters. It will also be necessary to amend the Small Business Act to increase the authority for disaster loans.

Civil defense.—Expenditures for civil defense are grouped with those for peacetime disasters for budget classification purposes, but the program is discussed in connection with continental defense in the major national security section of this message.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

General government programs include many of the traditional domestic, civil activities of government, as well as certain government-wide activities, such as personnel and property management, which cannot readily be allocated to any single category. Our primary objective is to perform these central activities efficiently and thus reduce the cost of all the services provided to our citizens for their tax dollars.

Net expenditures for general government programs are expected to increase by 146 million dollars to 1.8 billion dollars, largely because of (1) increased outlays to replace or improve inadequate Government buildings and (2) a larger payment to the retirement fund for civilian employees.

Legislative functions.—During the fiscal year 1957 construction of the new Senate Office Building will be almost completed and a substantial start will be made on both the new House Office Building and the extension of the Capitol authorized by the Congress at its last session. These new facilities account for the increase in estimated expenditures for legislative activities from 87 million dollars in 1956 to 111 million dollars in 1957.

Federal financial management.—The reorganization of the Internal Revenue Service and the adoption of improved methods and procedures have led to a more equitable and effective enforcement of the revenue laws. The audit of tax returns has been improved and more delinquent taxes have been collected.

It is expected that in the fiscal year 1957 the efficiency of tax collection will be improved even further, without a significant increase in expenditures for this purpose.

I urge that the Congress enact pending legislation to reduce the frequency of information returns submitted by employers withholding income and social security taxes. This legislation will simplify tax procedures for both the Government and the employers, and will also provide a basis for stronger enforcement of the tax laws.

General property and records management.—In the fiscal year 1957, major increases are planned in expenditures for construction and improvement of Government buildings to increase the efficiency of Government operations. To this end I am recommending appropriations to enlarge and remodel certain buildings and to begin the long-needed air conditioning of buildings in areas where temperature and humidity conditions are most adverse to economic operation. Additional appropriations are also recommended for the new building previously authorized for the Central Intelligence Agency, and, as noted in other sections of this message, for extension of the Department of State building and for new buildings for the National Bureau of Standards.

While these recommendations involve substantial appropriations of Federal funds, most of the Federal building improvement program will be financed with private funds under the lease-purchase authority of the General Services Administration and the Post Office Department. Already 53 projects involving private financing of construction costing 105 million dollars have been approved, and additional projects involving about 250 million dollars are under consideration. Additional appropriations of 5 million dollars are requested to purchase sites and prepare plans for future projects.

This program as a whole will make a substantial start toward nationwide improvement in working conditions of Federal employees. In the Washington area alone, buildings already approved or under consideration for approval will permit relocation

of about one-third of the 60,000 employees now working in temporary and other substandard buildings.

Central personnel management and employment costs.—The Government's payments to the retirement funds for civilian employees are estimated at 297 million dollars in 1957, of which 295 million dollars will be for the civil service retirement trust fund and 2 million dollars for special annuitants. The proposed contribution to the retirement fund will be equivalent to the Government's share of benefit payments to be made from the fund during the fiscal year 1957. This contribution constitutes 35 percent of the sum estimated to be required to fund (1) the Government's part of the normal cost for current service of Federal employees, and (2) annual interest on the existing accrued liability of the Government to the fund.

Unemployment compensation payments to individuals who become eligible through Federal employment are estimated at 33 million dollars, about the same amount as in the fiscal year 1956. As the current 1956 appropriation provides only 20 million dollars, a supplemental appropriation will be requested.

Accident compensation payments to Federal employees and the related administrative expenses of the Department of Labor are estimated to continue at 50 million dollars in both 1956 and 1957. To encourage precautionary safety measures, the administration will propose legislation which will provide, in conformity with the best business practices, that employing agencies shall bear the cost of benefits paid for their employees.

Civilian weather services.—I am recommending for the fiscal year 1957 additional appropriations for the Weather Bureau to strengthen further its hurricane and tornado research program and to provide more storm detection radar. The budget also provides for additional equipment to measure visibility on airport runways and for needed improvements in housing at remote weather stations.

Protective services and alien control.—Increased appropria-

tions are recommended to strengthen the border patrol operations of the Immigration and Naturalization Service, primarily on our southern border. The Federal Bureau of Investigation will continue at its present employment level.

I shall recommend a supplemental appropriation for the Commission on Government Security which has recently been established to study the entire Government security program.

Territories and possessions and District of Columbia.—I am recommending legislation to authorize an increase of 2 million dollars in the Federal payment to the District of Columbia. This represents a reasonable Federal share of the increased cost of operating the government of our Capital City.

Legislation will also be proposed to carry out a treaty and agreement recently negotiated with the Republic of Panama. Following its enactment, the Canal Zone Government will make expenditures to replace schools and other civic improvements being transferred to Panama under the legislation.

Other general government.—Again I recommend legislation by which wider appreciation of the arts and encouragement of creative artistic endeavors may be promoted and national recognition for distinguished civilian contributions to the advancement of the arts and the welfare of mankind may be given.

INTEREST

Interest payments now account for about 11 percent of net budget expenditures. They are determined by the size of the public debt and by interest rates on that debt. They are included in budget expenditures as they accrue. Interest is paid from permanent appropriations.

Interest on the public debt.—Interest payments on the public debt in the fiscal year 1957 are estimated at 7 billion dollars. This is an increase of 200 million dollars over estimated expenditures for the current fiscal year and 630 million dollars above actual expenditures in 1955.

The high level of prosperity has created a heavy demand for credit by private enterprises. As a result the average rate payable on the interest-bearing public debt has risen during the last 12 months from 2.29 percent to 2.49 percent at present, and maturing obligations are being refinanced at the higher rates prevailing in the money market.

The administration is recommending legislation so that the interest paid to the Federal old-age and survivors insurance trust fund will reflect more closely the long-term character of investments by that fund.

CONCLUSION

This is the third budget I have transmitted to the Congress.

As a result of the substantial reductions in Government expenditures made by the administration subsequent to assuming office, I noted in the first of these three budgets—for the fiscal year 1955—that a budget surplus was actually in sight. However, so that part of our savings through economies during that transitional period could be passed along to the taxpayers of the Nation as a whole, with beneficial effects for the growth of our economy, I stated that I believed it best “to adopt a course leading toward the twin goals of a balanced budget and tax reductions.”

Tax reduction was thus achieved with the administration’s first budget, which made possible a 7.4-billion-dollar tax reduction program, enabling us to make progress of historic dimensions in reducing tax burdens and improving the tax structure.

A balanced budget is now being achieved in the administration’s second and third budgets, both of which we now estimate will be brought into balance.

This course of Government policy has helped to lay a sound basis for the greatest volume of business, the highest employment, and the highest national income in the history of this country. As an essential element in this prosperity, private spending has more than replaced reductions in Federal spending. Federal

expenditures have declined from 20.6 percent of total national production in the fiscal year 1953 to 17.3 percent in 1955. This budget is designed to continue that trend.

We have freed the economy from needless controls and from inflationary deficits, and have reduced the tax burdens which threatened to destroy the incentives to work and save and invest. State and local governments are now in an excellent position to obtain revenues and meet their responsibilities.

This budget carries forward the policies this administration has been following in the interest of all our 167 million Americans. The success of our country depends not upon centralized Government control, but upon the efforts of all our people to do more for themselves, to better themselves, their families, and communities. The role of Government is to encourage these efforts.

Some parts of our society, however, have not shared fully in the present prosperity of America. This budget provides for new steps to help create the conditions under which all Americans may share in the abundance we as a nation are enjoying.

There has also been developed an armed strength more efficient and better organized than ever before, and we shall continue building our defenses. We have started a worldwide, cooperative effort for peaceful uses of atomic energy which is already beginning to show results. We have worked with other free countries on a mutual basis to increase their economic and military strength and will continue to work with them. Our future prosperity, perhaps our very survival, will be linked with the strength of our allies and in the development of good will rather than fear and distrust among the nations.

This Nation has reached a new high of material prosperity. The rest of the free world has come to expect our leadership in cooperative efforts for peace and in defense of our common liberties. We should be very thankful for the resources of this country, for the efforts and accomplishments of our forebears. We

should also be very humble. America must continue to be the land of faith, of promise, and of unbounded opportunity. There is much yet to do. With God's help, we will all go forward.

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

NOTE: As printed above, the following have been deleted: (1) illustrative diagrams; (2) references to tables, special analyses, and other matters appearing in the budget proper; (3) two summary tables set-

ting forth budget expenditures and new obligational authority by major programs and by Government agencies; (4) all detailed tables covering individual programs.

13 ¶ Letter to the President of the Senate and to the Speaker of the House of Representatives
Transmitting Report of the President's Advisory
Committee on Water Resources Policy.

January 17, 1956

Sir:

I herewith transmit for the consideration of the Congress the report of the Advisory Committee on Water Resources Policy, consisting of the Secretary of Agriculture, the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of the Interior. The report is the result of a detailed study of our water problems and of the present powers and activities of the various Federal establishments engaged in water resource development. The Department of Commerce, the Department of Health, Education and Welfare, the Bureau of the Budget and other agencies including the Department of Justice participated in its preparation.

The policies set out in the report embody a framework within which the Federal Government, with state and local governments and other non-Federal interests, may cooperate to develop our

water resources. These policies will reconcile many practices among Federal agencies that are now in conflict.

A planning organization along the lines proposed in the report will provide a continuing mechanism for settling unresolved problems that are not specifically covered in it or that may arise in the future. The report recognizes fully the responsibilities of the Federal Government for leadership, guidance and action in this field. At the same time, it recognizes that there are a multitude of water developments which are more appropriate for regional, state or local activity.

The report points out that the principles which recognize water rights as property rights should be accepted, and that determinations as to disposition of water should recognize such rights. It recommends that a study be made under the leadership of the Federal Government in collaboration with the States and local entities with reference to property rights to water and the social and economic development of the Nation and the area.

Set forth in the report is a pattern for the widest possible public participation in water resources projects. Organizational changes are recommended to coordinate more closely Federal and non-Federal activity and to make possible more effective Executive guidance. The intent of these proposed changes is to provide the states and local water resources agencies a more adequate voice in the planning and development of projects and facilitate joint participation by all of the affected Federal interests. By this type of cooperative effort we should be assured that all possible uses of water are adequately considered.

The policies we adopt for the development of our water resources will have a profound effect in the years to come upon our domestic, agricultural and industrial economy. I commend the fundamental purposes and objectives of this report, and I earnestly recommend that the Congress give prompt attention to its proposals.

Sincerely,

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

NOTE: This is the text of identical letters addressed to the Honorable Richard M. Nixon, President of the Senate, and the Honorable Sam Rayburn, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

The report of the President's Advisory Committee on Water Resources Policy is printed in House Document 315 (84th Cong., 2d sess.).

14 ¶ Letter to Ross Rizley, Chairman, Civil Aeronautics Board, on the Great Circle Route to the Orient. *January 18, 1956*

Dear Mr. Rizley:

In connection with the Trans-Pacific Certificate Renewal Case (Docket No. 5031, et al.), I advised the Board on February 1, 1955 that I desired to hold in abeyance my decision concerning the use of the Great Circle route by Pan American World Airways pending further study and later report on the economic and technical feasibility and the military and foreign policy implications of nonstop service between the West Coast and the Orient.

I am informed that commercial equipment capable of providing regular and consistent nonstop service in both directions between the West Coast and the Orient is not yet available. Hence, in the absence of possible new circumstances or developments since February 1, 1955 that might be relevant to the question concerning Pan American's use of the Great Circle route, I see no occasion for a change at this time in my initial decision.

I have been advised, however, that new circumstances and new developments have arisen that may make at least some of the considerations previously raised by the Board no longer applicable. I, therefore, request the Board to consider the case in the light of any new and relevant circumstances or developments that it finds to exist, and advise me as soon as possible as to its findings and conclusions thereon.

Sincerely,

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

NOTE: In his letter of February 1, 1955, the President returned without approval Civil Aeronautics Board orders affecting several airlines in the Trans-Pacific Renewal Case. The Board issued revised orders renewing the temporary certificate of Northwest Airlines to fly the shorter,

Great Circle route, but deferring its decision as to a similar application by Pan American World Airways. The President's letter and a statement as to the revised orders were released by the Board on February 2, 1955.

15 ¶ Telegram to the Deputy Secretary of State of New Hampshire, Concerning Appearance on the Primary Ballot. *January 19, 1956*

*The Honorable Harry E. Jackson
Deputy Secretary of State
State House
Concord, New Hampshire*

I have your courteous telegram of January fourteenth, advising me that petitions have been filed at your office which qualify my name for inclusion on the Presidential preference primary ballot of the Republican Party in the State of New Hampshire.

Naturally, I am deeply gratified that the petitioners have expressed this kind of personal confidence in me. I do not feel that I should interpose any objection to such entry.

However, because I must make clear to all that lack of objection cannot be construed as any final decision on my part relative to a candidacy for a second term in the office I now hold, I hope that all who vote in the Republican primaries in 1956 will carefully weigh all the possibilities and personalities that may be involved.

Freedom to select, nominate and elect a candidate to public office is basic to our American political system. Because I deeply believe that every citizen should have the widest possible choice in expressing his own preference in such matters, I would hope

that the accident of my illness and the necessary period for determining the degree of my recovery would not have the effect of interfering with the privilege of every member of our Party to express his preference for the Presidential candidate of his choice.

It would be idle to pretend that my health can be wholly restored to the excellent state in which the doctors believed it to be in mid-September. At the same time, my doctors report to me that the progress I am making toward a reasonable level of strength is normal and satisfactory. My future life must be carefully regulated to avoid excessive fatigue. My reasons for obedience to the medical authorities are not solely personal; I must obey them out of respect for the responsibilities I carry.

The personal decision to which I refer will be rendered as soon as it is firmly fixed in my own mind. I shall strive to see that it is based as to my best judgment on the good of our country.

Sincerely,

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

NOTE: The President read this tele- ference on January 19, 1956 (see
gram at the opening of his news con- Item 16).

16 ¶ The President's News Conference of *January 19, 1956*

THE PRESIDENT. Please be seated.

Well, it's good to see so many faces here again after such a long absence from you.

Since I have last seen you, as you can imagine, I have been presented with a number of personal political questions. One of them arises in connection with the notice I have from the State of New Hampshire that my name has been qualified for the inclusion on the list of candidates in their preferential primary.

So, I have written an answer, an answer that, in the present

circumstances, seems to me to be applicable in all such cases, and I will read it to you.

There will be copies, so you don't have to take this down in case you should want it verbatim.

This is to Mr. Jackson, Deputy Secretary of State of New Hampshire:

[Reads reply to Mr. Jackson. For text, see Item 15.]

That is all of the answer that is being made to any political questions. I have no objections to personal questions affecting health or anything of that kind, but as far as personal political questions are concerned, all questions have been answered.

Q. Robert E. Clark, International News Service: Mr. President, I am not sure whether this infringes on the ground you are outlining here, but can you tell us whether from your experience since returning to the full burden of the White House, your health is up to carrying the burden of the Presidency?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I would think it would be premature, Mr. Clark, for me to say that in those specific terms. I have had some quite intensive days—yesterday was—and I think that by following closely, as closely as I can, the regime the doctors laid down, that so far I have gotten by very well.

Q. David P. Sentner, Hearst Newspapers: Mr. President, what is your personal reaction to Mr. Hoover's suggestion for the appointment of an Administrative Vice President?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, of course I and, I think, everybody connected with the White House are very grateful to Mr. Hoover for undertaking this study which should long ago have been made. Without any reference to any individual or to my recent illness, the staff of the White House has grown a little bit like Topsy from time to time, with the growing intricacies of Government. What he is trying to do is to provide some of the practices of business in the Office of the President, so that the President and his chief advisers can give more time, I think, to policymaking.

Now, he told me he had no particular torch to bear for a particular name or title to the office, but he does want to put by law, if necessary, and by administrative action, greater authority in some individual to do more of the supervisory work.

But I repeat, it is necessary that the whole staff arrangement be restudied with respect to space. It would be idle just to increase staffs and have no place to put them. So with respect to space, their fitting in with all of the agencies of Government, that is the kind of broad study that should be made.

I think Mr. Hoover's principal purpose is, in the meantime, to provide some kind of relief to future Presidents, and I think he is a man of experience and knows exactly what he is doing.

Q. Edward T. Folliard, Washington Post and Times Herald: Mr. President, I don't know whether this comes in the category of questions that are open, but Senator Knowland said the other day that he thought that you would surely make an announcement one way or the other about your plans by mid-February. Is that——

THE PRESIDENT. Well, this is what I have promised, Mr. Folliard: to make the announcement as quickly as a decision is firmly reached in my own mind.

I have no desire whatsoever to confuse the American people or to evade anything you are putting in front of me. But you can well imagine the pressures that are brought upon me every day, and I have to isolate myself from them at times as much as I can in order that I may reach a logical decision.

I will do it as soon as I can.

Q. Merriman Smith, United Press: Mr. President, there were some, after your conference with us at Key West, who got the idea from what you said down there that you had reached a tentative decision. Is that a correct conclusion from what you said?

THE PRESIDENT. No.

Q. Sarah McClendon, El Paso Times: Mr. President, will you take steps soon to carry out the recommendations of your

Water Resources Policy Committee? Will you appoint a coordinator of water resources for the White House?

THE PRESIDENT. I think I put that report before Congress. I have a man now in this work, I believe as deeply as administrative action can place him, General Bragdon. But I think that anything more than he is now doing will have to be authorized by Congress.

Q. Raymond P. Brandt, St. Louis Post-Dispatch: On this Dulles article in *Life* magazine, by Jim Shepley, was any decision reached to use the atomic bomb in those three instances?

THE PRESIDENT. First of all, I have not read that article, and I have read some of the allegations that he is supposed to have made.

I am not going to take a privately written article and discuss it in detail, and thereby make of it a paper which, if it is going to discuss those subjects, should be most carefully and properly written.

Now, another thing I am not going to do is to discuss anywhere in the world present, past, or possible future decisions and material that come before the National Security Council. It is not proper to do it, and those papers are privileged and must remain so.

Now, I don't know all of the things that are alleged to have been said. I have complete faith in Mr. Dulles. I do not know whether they were unfortunate expressions used in that article by him or by someone reporting them. But I know he is devoted to peace. He has spent his lifetime in this kind of work. He is a man of great professional skill in the field, and to my mind, the best Secretary of State I have ever known.

Now, that is the answer to that article.

Q. Mr. Brandt: Yes. If this is within the purview of that, can you tell us what arrangements are made to inform our allies or Congress on such a decision?

THE PRESIDENT. What decision?

Q. Mr. Brandt: To go to the verge of war and then, if necessary, go over?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I don't admit that you—you seem to me to be putting words in my mouth, Mr. Brandt.

This is what I say: that I am supporting before the world a program of peace. It is really waging peace, based upon moral principles of decency and justice and right. If you are going to do that and are not going to be guilty, every time the thing looks dangerous, of a Munich, you have got to stand firmly.

You may interpret that as being at the brink of something, because the other fellow can react according to his own desires and what he believes to be his best interests.

But when it comes to the matter of war, there is only one place that I would go, and that is to the Congress of the United States, and tell them what I believe.

Q. Milburn Petty, *Oil Daily*: Mr. President, last February the Cabinet Fuels Policy Committee recommended against Federal control of natural gas production. Do you favor the bill now before the Senate to accomplish that?

THE PRESIDENT. You know I have been over that subject—about last June or July, early in the summer, someone here asked this question. I went into it in the greatest detail, including, I believe, some comments on the bill before the Congress where this matter is still being studied. If you will look up that answer, and I am sure Mr. Hagerty will give it to you, that is all I have to say.

Q. William H. Lawrence, *New York Times*: Mr. President, have you considered what, if anything, should be done about the failure of the Constitution to specify when and by whom the disability of the President might be declared, and when and by whom it might be removed?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, when you are as closely confined to your bed as I was for some time, you think about lots of things, and this was one of the foremost in my mind.

I do believe that there should be some agreement on the exact meaning of the Constitution, who has the authority to act.

The Constitution seems to be clear that Congress cannot only make the laws of succession, but it can determine what is to be done, and it says, "In the case of so-and-so and so-and-so," but it does not say who is to determine the disability of the President. And we could well imagine a case where the President would be unable to determine his own disability.

I think it is a subject that, in its broadest aspects, every phase of it should be carefully studied by the Congress, advised by the Attorney General and any kind of advice they want from the executive department, and some kind of a resolution of doubt reached. I think it would be good for the country.

Q. Chalmers M. Roberts, Washington Post and Times Herald: On the foreign issue, sir, within the limitation which, I think, you have placed, I would like to ask this: I believe you told us, at the time last year that the Congress passed a resolution giving you authority to use the armed forces if Quemoy or Matsu were attacked, on the basis of your judgment at that time as to whether this was an attack on Formosa. The implication of the Dulles' article to which reference has been made at one point, was that you had made a decision at one time.

May I ask, sir, have you ever made a decision or is it still your position that you will make that when and if the occasion arises?

THE PRESIDENT. I don't believe I will say anything further on the subject, Mr. Roberts, because, as I say, if I begin to pick pieces of that article and talk about it, then I begin to make it a part of our official thoughts and records, and I am just not going to do it.

Q. Mr. Roberts: Well, sir, what I was—I was sorry I mentioned the article then. [*Laughter*]

What I was trying to determine, sir, was whether what you had told us previously, before this article was conceived, still stood, that you would make the decision if and when the occasion arose.

THE PRESIDENT. Then, I will tell you this: I went to the Congress perfectly honest and told them that in these circumstances we couldn't tell what was going to happen, and there was no way for me to tell and for anyone else in the world, unless he is a far greater genius than I, what that attack was going to mean when it came about.

I think the character of the attack which was carried forward had to determine in the mind of a qualified person whether it was an attack all out against Formosa or whether it was strictly and completely local. So I think you are talking about a hypothetical case that did not eventuate. There is no way of making an answer to it.

Q. Marvin L. Arrowsmith, Associated Press: Mr. President, to go back for a moment to your opening statement, I think you said it could be considered to have a general application. Would that mean you have no objection to entry of your name in any of the presidential primaries in any State?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, it means that I am not going to make any official objection, certainly, and the statement stands on itself, and I did mean it just that way. It would be my answer to all of these.

Q. Mrs. May Craig, New England Papers: Mr. President, do you think it is right and proper that a White House physician should conceal from appropriate officials for many hours the serious illness of a President; and, two, to refrain for many hours from calling in other physicians to consult on his diagnosis and early treatment?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, you are asking what I assume to be a hypothetical question—[*laughter*]—because in my own case my doctor was in close contact, I think, with others very rapidly, certainly as soon as daylight came, and it was determined what to do about it.

Q. Mrs. Craig: Sir, I understood it was as much as 10 hours.

THE PRESIDENT. It may have been. But it probably may take some 10 hours to determine whether a person is suffering

from having eaten some bad food or some other cause, I am not sure. I am not a doctor, you are sure of that.

Q. William S. White, *New York Times*: Without reference to anything, sir, that has been said lately by anybody else—[*laughter*—I mean that seriously—would you comment in general on the state of the world, on the state of prospects of peace?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, we have to get things in perspective.

As you know, for some year or year and a half prior to Geneva, there was a growing pressure, probably more abroad than at home, that some so-called “conference at the Summit” be held.

There was great doubt in this country as to the wisdom of the thing. But one point that was very important in reaching a decision, we would not have the United States placed in the position of being sort of dog in the manger, going to have our way about everything or do nothing.

We felt perfectly capable of defending the principles and policies of the United States. And so that meeting was arranged with the earnest intent on our side to make every conciliatory advance that did not impinge upon the principles and values in which we believed.

Now, one thing happened that you could have expected, and which we, of course, had prophesied or anticipated. That was that a great wave of relief spread around, and there was great hope. Of course there was hope, but hope must always be tempered by the existence of facts. Those high hopes have not been realized.

So, if we compare our feelings today as to what they were, let us say, in early August, we have a feeling of great letdown. But if we go back over the period of 3 years and review the events that have come to pass, the situation is not as dark in many areas, indeed much brighter, than it was at that time.

To counterbalance that, we have had this growing tension and uneasiness in the Mid-East where American policy is to be friends to all, in the certainty and in the earnest belief that only through

friendship among themselves is there ever going to be any peace, prosperity, and advancement in that region.

We, of course, in that area do not look on with any great equanimity. It is bound to cause earnest thought and study all the time.

But in the whole general picture we were in a Korean War that, due to the way we were waging it, there was no chance of winning, because the crossing of the Yalu River would have, you might say, shocked international opinion.

The Indo-China war was probably settled on the best basis that could be achieved.

Iran, you will remember, just 3 years ago now, every week we were expecting almost to lose Iran. That has been settled.

The British bases in Egypt were another great sore point that has been settled.

The Trieste situation—that caused all of us daily uneasiness.

The first direct attempt to establish communism in our continent has been eliminated.

So, there are features that would say, as compared to 3 years ago, the situation is better and brighter. But I would not be guilty of standing before you to say that here is any cause for complacency or any lack of fervor and study and work in trying to do better.

Q. Edward P. Morgan, American Broadcasting Company: Sir, General Ridgway has charged in an article that during the time that he was Army Chief of Staff decisions were made regarding the size of the armed forces which he did not agree to, but which it was indicated that he did by a statement you made in the state of the Union message, saying that the Joint Chiefs were unanimous on it, and he also said that decisions were made in deference to domestic politics on these matters.

Could you comment on that, sir?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, first, if ever I have made a military decision out of deference to internal politics, then I have been

guilty of my own best determinations. I am determined never in that field to be influenced by such a thing.

Now, I just make two points: first, every sector of the state of the Union message in which this statement about the unanimous decision was made—every sector of that report is sent to the department having primary responsibility in that field to check it for every fact, every item that is there, to make certain it is correct.

If there is any incorrectness in any of the matters that appear with respect to the Defense Department section, please see Admiral Radford and Mr. Wilson.

Finally, one other thing: as all of you here know, since back in 1940, I have been receiving advice from every kind of military assistant. Their advice is often expressing their own deeply felt, but, let us say, narrow fears.

If I had listened to all of the advice I got during those years, there never would have been a plan for crossing the Channel. Indeed, I think we wouldn't have crossed the Atlantic Ocean. We certainly would never have invaded Africa and the Mediterranean, and I know we never would have crossed the Channel until yet.

So finally there come places where people in authority must make decisions based on the best advice they get.

Q. Charles E. Shutt, Telenews: About 3 weeks ago, sir, Premier Bulganin expressed the thought that another Summit meeting might be fruitful. Would you care to express your views on that, sir?

THE PRESIDENT. That is one I missed. I haven't heard that one yet. I haven't anything to say about that.

Q. Charles L. Bartlett, Chattanooga Times: Mr. President, you spoke of the pressures that are being put on you in regard to this big decision, and I wondered if you could tell us whether you are being subjected to a series of pressures from the people who come to visit you, friends and officials, or whether you are being left to make this big decision in relative solitude?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, you are pressing very closely to the limits of the field that I debarred, but I will say this: I myself said I would seek the advice of my trusted friends and associates, and I have been busy doing it. But as that goes on, there is a flood of mail, and the mail is generally of one tenor only. After all, a person, no matter how many political enemies he has, does also have lots of friends. They believe in him, and they are very anxious to express their views. So that is what I referred to when I said that.

Q. Robert G. Spivack, New York Post: Recently you suggested a commission to study acts of violence against Negroes in certain States. I wonder if you have discussed this with Attorney General Brownell or the FBI, and if that isn't really one of their functions?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, what I want to find out is, of course, someone to try to define the lines in which Federal responsibility in the great fields of civil rights lays.

Now, I don't remember that I said "Negroes." I have forgotten some of the details of that message. But I do recall that what I was interested in is to find out where we are violating and where the Federal Government has any responsibility whatsoever.

Q. Laurence H. Burd, Chicago Tribune: Mr. President, has any date been set for this medical examination that you will have next month?

THE PRESIDENT. Thank you for asking the question. I came over from my office this morning and knew there was something I had forgotten to do. [*Turning to Mr. Hagerty*] You remember that.

No, there hasn't. [*Laughter*]

Q. Clark R. Mollenhoff, Des Moines Register and Tribune: Many of the middle western Republicans have been suggesting price supports on hogs and prices ranging from something like \$16 to \$18. I wonder if you could give us your viewpoint on the use of price supports on hogs during the present farm emergency?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I would be really answering, I think, a very serious question a little bit too rapidly.

Actually, the broad program that we proposed does have a number of features that would begin to bring in income to farmers very quickly. One of them was a renewed purchase price for—governmental purchase program for hogs.

I would believe that to go in this whole perishable field and begin the business of price supports would be dangerous. I would want to study it more before expressing myself definitely on it.

Merriman Smith, United Press: Thank you, Mr. President.

NOTE: President Eisenhower's seventy-seventh news conference was held in the Executive Office Building from 10:32 to 10:58 o'clock on Thursday morning, January 19, 1956. In attendance: 290.

17 ¶ Letter Accepting Resignation of Rowland R. Hughes as Director, Bureau of the Budget.

January 20, 1956

Dear Rowland:

While I have long been aware that you would not be able to carry on indefinitely as Director of the Budget, it is with deepest regret that I accept the fact that personal obligations compel you to leave Government on April first.

Budgetary responsibilities are always heavy and complex, but those you have carried during the past two years seem to me even more challenging than customary. As you are so well aware, courage, unflagging effort, and broad sympathetic understanding have been indispensable requirements in reestablishing the nation on a strong budgetary foundation—a foundation on which it is possible, for an indefinite time and without resort to borrowing against future generations, to make proper provision for both the nation's security and the advancement of human values so funda-

mental to our democracy. It is a tribute to your wise judgment and devoted service that we have reached our present reassuring position. You should take vast pride in the balanced budgets now at hand.

I know that the Department and Agency heads with whom you have worked closely throughout this Administration share in the deep feeling of appreciation that I have for your always helpful advice and cooperative spirit. We shall sorely miss your presence in the continuing effort ahead.

To my sincere thanks for your fine contribution I add all best wishes for health and happiness in the future.

With warm regard,

Sincerely,

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

NOTE: Mr. Hughes' letter of January 17, 1956, follows:

My dear Mr. President:

You will recall that when I came down to help Joe Dodge in the Budget Bureau in the beginning of April 1953 the assignment was strictly for one year. When Mr. Dodge left in April 1954 and I became Director, I agreed to extend the period up to two years more. That time is up this coming April. Compelling personal and family reasons make it essential that I carry out that timetable and leave the Budget Bureau about the 1st of April, 1956.

The balanced budget for FY 1957 with the forecast of a balance also for FY 1956 has gone to the Congress. I am glad to have had a part in the grand job of the Eisenhower team under your leadership in ac-

complishing this notable achievement.

Mr. President, you are truly doing a wonderful work for our country. It has been a great satisfaction and a high point in my experience to be associated with you and the great team you have assembled. I know perhaps better than many others what the accomplishments have been in these three years. You have furnished the needed combination of sound fiscal operation and the continued building up of human values with full recognition and provision of necessary posture of military strength. All have been kept in proper proportion and that has protected our heritage and offered hope for the free world, so sadly needed. God bless you.

You shall continue to have my

whole hearted support and help in
any way I can, even though no
longer officially part of the adminis-
tration.

With great respect and affection,
I am,
Sincerely,

ROWLAND HUGHES

18 ¶ Address at “Salute to Eisenhower” Dinner.
January 20, 1956

*Mr. Vice President, Chairman Hall, my very dear friends here
and throughout the United States:*

In this past half hour, on the magic carpet of Television, I have traveled around the country, recognizing faces of old friends hundreds of miles distant, recalling visits to cities as I glimpsed them on the screen, feeling the enthusiasm and warm friendship of so many thousands I have never met. I wish I could meet them so that I might personally say to each: “Thank you!”

In fact, my friends, all my friends, after such a tribute as has been paid to Mrs. Eisenhower and to me this evening, the heart is so full that it is indeed dangerous to try to say more than “Thank You.” I shall let it go at that.

Naturally, we have been deeply moved through the flying minutes of this electronic tour. I am grateful to everyone—the Republican Clubs, and all the organizations, the workers and all individuals and their friends—who, directly or indirectly, participated in this Salute.

But my deepest emotion is concerned with things not shown on the television cameras, things of the mind and of the heart and of the spirit—the memory of millions of our people—Republicans, Independents, Democrats—who in 1952 worked tirelessly to make reality of their ideas of good government; memories of men and women who stirred their friends and communities to action and who—when the election was done—returned to their homes and their jobs, quietly performing the work of America, raising their

families, discharging their responsibilities of citizenship, living worthy, rewarding lives.

Those many millions made possible the event whose anniversary you celebrate today. They are the basis and the strength of what so many have called a new era. They brought fresh vigor to the political life of America with their vision, their energy and their dedication. We in Washington—inspired by them—have sought earnestly to be worthy of their trust. The heartfelt thanks of everyone at all these dinners throughout the nation tonight go to them. They, in the homes of America, are the ones who truly merit a great salute.

During recent months I have had an opportunity, indeed an enforced opportunity, to ponder on many subjects—the essential goodness and honest purposes of people; the common bonds that join all Americans regardless of ancestry, faith or politics; the anxiety of multitudes, at home and abroad, to encourage and to pray for one stricken by illness; the unity of aspirations that binds humanity together.

In pursuit of these aspirations, we in the Federal Government strive with all our strength to convert the uneasy peace in which we live to one that is genuine, based on the great moral principles of justice and of right. Knowing well that true peace cannot be achieved by retreat from reality and responsibility or by desertion of friends, we make certain that our defenses are alert and strong; that our partnerships with others are based on deep friendships and common great purposes; that gradually the truth of our nation's peaceful goals and our respect for the rights of others is brought to all peoples of the earth. And let no one be in doubt; this struggle for peace will be waged relentlessly by Americans of all parties and all creeds until at last success shall crown our efforts and reward our faith.

At home we enjoy prosperity; not the false prosperity of a dizzy inflation or of economic activity based mainly on arms spending; not the tragic prosperity of a few who can squander and of millions who must pinch; rather the genuine and widely

shared prosperity of an immense productivity for peacetime satisfaction of human needs.

This record is the product of an industrious citizenry, supported in the Federal Government by a program designed for progress and dedicated to integrity, to concern for every individual, to faith in America and its principles.

Many tasks still await action. Problems involving sectors of the home front and relationships abroad demand the earnest and sympathetic attention of all Americans. Thus the present and the future are heavy with challenge, rich with opportunity. We must not relax merely because the general record is good.

Now, my friends, for every good citizen, his political party is, or he wants it to be, an instrument for genuine service, united in its devotion to a program that preserves intact the vital principles of the American creed; that attacks every problem in the light of those principles; that recognizes inescapable change and meets it; that believes in the dignity of every individual, in his equal right to justice and fair play, in his equal opportunity for the exercise of his talents, in his right to proper sharing in the nation's prosperity. This is my personal conception of the Republican Party on this January 20th, 1956. As long as our Party lives by these principles and dedicates itself to these goals, it will continue to draw into its ranks in ever-increasing numbers, men and women of idealism from every walk of life and from every section of our country.

As we move toward the solution of existing problems, my own future role in our Party remains undetermined; whether to be a candidate for your nomination or a worker in the ranks. I could devoutly wish that there were some method by which the American people could, under the circumstances, point out the path of my true duty. But it appears that this is a question that first I alone must answer. That answer will be forthcoming as quickly as it is firmly fixed in my mind. I trust that it will not unduly reflect concern for self, and I pledge that in whatever capacity I shall serve, I shall support with all my strength the

foreign and domestic programs for America that have been the guide of all of us for these past three years. That work must go on to fruition, in the interests of all Americans.

Again my warmest thanks to all of you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 10:17 p. m. at the Sheraton-Park Hotel, Washington, D. C. A closed circuit telecast linked together 49 of the 53 "Salute to Eisenhower" dinners in 51 cities and 36 States. The program featured greetings to the President from selected spokesmen including political leaders, a farmer, a housewife, a small-business man, and the engineer of the President's 1952

campaign train.

The President's opening words referred to Vice President Nixon, who introduced him over the telecast from Chicago, and Leonard W. Hall, Chairman, Republican National Committee, who spoke in Washington at the opening of the program.

The address was broadcast over two national radio networks.

19 ¶ Annual Message Transmitting the Economic Report to the Congress.

January 24, 1956

To the Congress of the United States:

I am herewith presenting my Economic Report, as required by Section 3 (a) of the Employment Act of 1946.

In preparing this Report, I have had the assistance and advice of the Council of Economic Advisers. I have also had the advice of the heads of executive departments and independent agencies.

Since my Report is long, I present below, largely in the words of the Report itself, what I regard as its highlights.

RECENT ECONOMIC ACHIEVEMENTS

Full employment, rising incomes, and a stable dollar have been cherished goals of our society. The practical attainment of these ideals during 1955 was the year's great economic achievement.

The past year has brought fresh witness to the basic strength

and resiliency of our economy. We have broken through to new and higher ground, and have reached the threshold of a 400 billion dollar economy.

Whether we observe economic activity at the stage of production, or employment, or income disbursement, or consumer spending, we find evidence of progress and prosperity. The Nation's expanding income is being shared widely. Employment and wages are at record levels. Both investment and consumer spending are going forward at a good pace. Some groups of people have not, however, enjoyed a full measure of prosperity, and we must keep that fact before us as we build for the future.

THE ROLE OF GOVERNMENT

The mainspring of our economy is to be found in the qualities of the American people. Given free institutions and a favorable physical environment, an expanding economy is the natural fruit of the enterprise of such a people.

Today, we believe as strongly in economic progress through free and competitive enterprise as our fathers did, and we resent as they did any unnecessary intrusion of Government into private affairs. But we have also come to believe that progress need not proceed as irregularly as in the past, and that the Federal Government has the capacity to moderate economic fluctuations without becoming a dominant factor in our economy.

Our governmental policies have concentrated on building an economic environment that favors an orderly expansion of private activities. The Federal Government has not sought to maintain good times by expanding our already huge governmental outlays or by permitting the value of money to depreciate.

The Administration has sought, in cooperation with the Congress, to discharge its responsibility through a series of closely related policies. *First*, by removing direct controls over prices and wages, which had outlived their usefulness. *Second*, by preserving an actively competitive environment and assisting new and small businesses. *Third*, by curtailing governmental activ-

ities that could be handled as well or better by private enterprise. *Fourth*, by restricting public expenditures, and yet adding to the country's defensive strength and its stock of public assets, especially highways, hospitals, and educational facilities. *Fifth*, by lightening the burden of taxes imposed on individuals and businesses. *Sixth*, by extending the ties of trade and investment with other nations of the Free World. *Seventh*, by tempering the impact of unemployment, old age, illness, and blighted neighborhoods on people, yet not impairing self-reliance. *Eighth*, by extending the automatic workings of our fiscal system that tend to offset or cushion changes in income arising from changes in economic activity. *Ninth*, by attacking fundamental causes of weakness in the farm situation. *Tenth*, by acting promptly and resolutely when either recessionary or inflationary influences in the general economy became evident.

To help keep our surging economy in a healthy condition the Government in 1955 held the tax line. The Federal Reserve System shifted from a policy of active credit ease to one of moderate restraint. These policies contributed in large degree to the achievement and maintenance of prosperity without price inflation.

EXTENDING PROSPERITY

A period of general prosperity, such as we have recently been experiencing, presents a challenge to an intelligent citizenry. We must find ways and means of extending prosperity to the less flourishing sectors of our economy.

The position of farmers in our dynamic economy has aroused deep concern. It is imperative that we strengthen farm programs on the basis of a realistic appraisal of the present situation.

The persisting decline in farm prices and incomes reflects a continuing imbalance between farm output and its ultimate disposition. The imbalance and resulting huge surpluses are to be traced largely to the technological revolution in American agriculture, changing domestic demands for farm products, the ex-

pansion of agricultural production abroad, and the repeated extension of wartime price-support levels long after the end of World War II.

Many parts of our agricultural policy are working well and require only moderate changes. Together with the nine-point program built around the Soil Bank put forward in the recent Message on Agriculture, they constitute a many-sided attack on the ills that beset agriculture. There is no easy cure for persisting surplus conditions. The programs now recommended, if framed wisely and adopted promptly, will promote the welfare of farmers and the Nation.

The basic cause of low incomes is low productivity, irregular employment, or both. The Government can do a great deal to help people who have been left behind in the onrush of progress by undertaking special programs for raising their productivity.

One of the largest groups of low-income families is in rural areas, mostly on farms too small for efficient operation. The Rural Development Program is a soundly conceived approach to helping these farm families raise their productivity and thereby improve their economic status. Legislation is needed which will permit the program to be expanded in line with recommendations made last year.

To cope with chronic unemployment which has persisted in some communities, despite the attainment of practically full employment in the Nation at large, a new Area Assistance Program is recommended.

Vocational rehabilitation, widened coverage of the Federal Old-Age and Survivors Insurance Program, and housing needs of older people are fields in which advances should be made.

Relatively few people are as yet protected by insurance against catastrophic illness. The pooling of risks by private carriers, or if need be through a Federal program, would help meet this problem.

A joint Federal-State program for indemnifying flood victims

on losses to real property, business inventories, and household effects should be authorized.

BUILDING FOR FUTURE PROSPERITY

Lasting prosperity of the Nation depends far more on what individuals do for themselves than on what the Federal Government does or can do for them. The rate of our economic advance in the years ahead will depend largely on our ability as a people to preserve an environment that rewards individual initiative and encourages enterprise, innovation, and investment.

Government can contribute to the strengthening of competitive enterprise through monetary, fiscal, and housekeeping policies that promote high and rising levels of economic activity; by helping small and medium-sized businesses overcome impediments to their expansion; and by vigorous measures for preventing monopolistic practices and combinations.

For the present fiscal year a balanced budget is in prospect. Once a budgetary surplus comes definitely into sight and economic conditions continue to be favorable, we should begin reducing our huge public debt. Such an act of fiscal integrity would signify with unmistakable clarity that our democracy is capable of self-discipline.

To help meet the pressing need for more schoolrooms, the Congress is urged to authorize a program of Federal aid for school construction which, over a five-year period, could be expected to stimulate the States and localities to sufficiently greater efforts to remove the accumulated shortages.

The country urgently needs a modernized interstate highway system to relieve existing congestion, to provide for the expected growth of motor vehicle traffic, to strengthen the Nation's defenses, to reduce the toll of human life exacted each year in highway accidents, and to promote economic development.

The development of consumer instalment credit has been highly beneficial to our economy. However, it sometimes accentuates movements in the buying of consumer durable goods.

Although present conditions do not call for the use of any authority to regulate the terms of instalment credit, this is a good time for the Congress and the Executive Branch to study the problem.

Sound policies to promote the expansion of the international flow of goods, capital, enterprise, and technology will powerfully advance our national security and economic welfare, and help to build a stronger and more unified community of free nations.

Early passage of legislation authorizing membership of the United States in the Organization for Trade Cooperation and providing for further customs simplification is of high importance.

CONCLUSION

Foresight has helped our Nation make great strides in recent years toward a balanced and sustained prosperity. We have succeeded in expanding the scope of free enterprise, and yet increased the sense of security that people need in a highly industrialized age.

Taking recent developments all together, it is reasonable to expect that high levels of production, employment, and income will be broadly sustained during the coming year, and that underlying conditions will remain favorable to further economic growth.

Great opportunities lie ahead for American businessmen, consumers, workers, farmers, and investors. The recommendations of this Report should be helpful in the realization of these opportunities.

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

NOTE: The message and the complete report (238 pages) are published in "Economic Report of the President, 1956" (Government Printing Office, 1956).

20 ¶ The President's News Conference of
January 25, 1956.

THE PRESIDENT. Good morning. Please sit down.

The only announcement I have this morning is that the Vice President is going to Brazil at the head of a 14-individual mission, leaving here Sunday afternoon, to be present at the inauguration of the new Brazilian President.

Aside from that, questions.

Q. Marvin Arrowsmith, Associated Press: Mr. President, if you should decide to seek re-election, would you favor Vice President Nixon as your running mate again?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, my admiration, respect, and deep affection for Mr. Nixon, I think, are well known.

Now, I have never talked to him under any circumstances as to what his future is to be or what he wants it to be, and until I confer with him I wouldn't have anything to say.

Q. Merriman Smith, United Press: Mr. President, Secretary Dulles says he is trying to avoid having certain matters involving foreign affairs disputed in the coming national campaign. We have heard mention that among these matters is the Israeli-Arab situation.

Do you think it is possible, sir, to exclude specific issues from a national campaign; and do you think it should be done?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, you ask a very large question, and then put it in a very small frame. [*Laughter*]

Now, this is what I believe, and I think that Secretary Dulles and I are in complete accord on this—I know we are—that the great principles and policies that guide your foreign relationships should be absolutely a bipartisan affair, so that other countries do not have to fear too much a change in the political party occupying the executive branch of Government.

When it comes to many things as to method or personalities—for example, many people may not think that I have the per-

sonality or the proper approach to other individuals in handling very delicate problems. If they do think so, it is certainly their privilege to criticize and to try to make the change.

But when we are coming and talking about the policies, the aims and purposes and the aspirations of the United States, and the methods, the broad methods, by which we are pursuing those, those are the things that I think should be above politics.

Now, when you take a specific question such as the one you mentioned, where does it belong, in policy or just in the personal ideas of an individual?

So there I wouldn't attempt to answer it in those terms. But I think my position is clear on it.

Q. Edward H. Sims, Columbia (S. C.) State and Record: I have two questions, sir. What do you think, Mr. President, of Congressman Richards' proposal that Congress approve of the general principle of long-term foreign aid but not bind itself to commitments? Would that be an acceptable substitute?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, you have asked one question that takes a little time to answer; I don't know about your second.

I think there has been a great deal of misunderstanding about the administration's viewpoint toward long-term aid.

The great portion of our aid is put down in specific items for specific countries, and is fixed and authorized by Congress.

Now, there are certain projects in certain countries of the world that cannot be executed quickly. If you start them, you have to give some pledge of going on to the end or some assurance that you will go on to the end. And it is only through such assurance that the International Bank, for example, will step in and do its part in those projects.

Now, the whole purpose of the so-called long-term plan is to have Congress and the Executive together. It's their agreement, and their statement, that these certain types of projects could be extended, that agreements could be made extending over a given period.

Of course, there can be no appropriations made now. The

appropriations are made year by year. But if Congress and the Executive together say something to the people of the world, we feel it ought to have more authority, give more confidence, than if the Executive alone states it.

Q. Mr. Sims: Mr. President——

THE PRESIDENT. He has a double-barrelled question.

Q. Mr. Sims: I just have one very short one. Do you intend to follow the rotation custom this time that if there is another vacancy in the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals—and by rotation by custom that nomination will be to a South Carolinian—do you intend to follow that?

THE PRESIDENT. Normally—I will say this—in the circuit courts we try to keep a proper representation from the broad areas, and with particular reference to the areas in which cases are normally originated.

However, this one, you are asking me a question that is purely hypothetical. I have not studied it at all.

Q. Edward Jamieson Milne, *Providence Journal*: There is at least a lively possibility, I believe, sir, that your income estimates in the budget may be fairly substantially exceeded. If we should come up with another billion or two, would you give priority to debt reduction or to tax cuts, or do you think that, perhaps, you might find purposes for which you would have to spend more money?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, of course, any one of these three could happen within a modest amount. I suppose you are talking about this fiscal year '56?

Q. Mr. Milne: That is right.

THE PRESIDENT. I think that we believe our estimates are pretty accurate, but I notice that they always seem to be off in the final accounting. But I do feel this: that until we start to accomplish some reduction on our great tax burden that we really haven't got our financial house in order.

So, I never try to state what the amount would be, but I would like to see the intent on the part of the American people, after

their attention is drawn to this thing, to cut it down somewhat each year, a little bit whenever it is possible.

Q. Mr. Milne: I think, sir, you said reduction on tax burden. Were you speaking of debt reduction?

THE PRESIDENT. I am talking about cutting the debt.

Q. Mr. Milne: Debt; yes, sir.

THE PRESIDENT. Yes. Now, after you have cut the debt, everybody wants to cut taxes; goodness knows, I want to cut them.

Q. Earl Mazo, New York Herald Tribune: On the basis of your 3 years' contact with politics and politicians, could you tell us, sir, some of your present impressions about the business of politics; specifically, do you like it any better, do you feel more proficient, and do you have any advice for professional politicians?

THE PRESIDENT. Would you mind asking me that question some time at the beginning of a conference where everybody will agree we can talk that the whole half hour? After all, it is very long.

Q. Roscoe Drummond, New York Herald Tribune: Mr. President, may I return to an aspect of the foreign aid program, and say it is evident there has been some highly false opposition to the long-term concept from Senator Knowland and Senator George. And I wondered whether you felt that you had a chance of winning for your program, and whether you expect to make a maximum stand and pressure on Congress to try to bring it off?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I have never really understood thoroughly this expression "pressure on Congress," Roscoe. But I do say this: I believe this is in the best interests of the United States. I have proposed it after thorough study; I believe in it, and I recommend it, and I am going to stand for it on my part just as long as there is a chance to get it.

Q. Edward T. Folliard, Washington Post and Times Herald: Mr. President, last year, if I remember correctly, you opposed an anti-segregation amendment to a military reserve bill. I think

you said it was extraneous. How would you feel about an anti-segregation amendment to the school construction bill?

THE PRESIDENT. Some of you seem to have a genius this morning for asking questions that take a great deal of explanation, rather than merely to say yes or no. These things aren't that simple.

Now, when it comes to my devotion to the Constitution—what it provides—my devotion to the decisions of the Supreme Court, particularly when they are unanimous, I hope is complete.

I believe in the equality of opportunity for every citizen of the United States.

Now, it isn't though quite as simple as that. If we go to the other end and begin to talk about laws, I believe that every law, every important bill, and every important purpose from Congress should be in a bill of its own, so that we don't get a confusion of issues and, therefore, don't know for what we are voting or what we are not voting for.

The Supreme Court, in reaching its decision as to what the law was, provided, and specifically provided, there be a gradual implementation, and referred it back to the district courts so that it should be gradual.

But, in the meantime, the need of the American children for schools is right now, immediately, today. So I think there should be nothing that is put on this thing that delays the construction.

Now, when you come down though to ask a man to vote against something that he believes to be in furtherance of Constitutional provisions, then you have got a tough one. But I just think that is the way I would handle it, to put it very clearly, because we want the schools now; and as much as the decision of the Supreme Court must be implemented, they said themselves, implemented gradually, because they recognize the deep roots of prejudice and emotionalism that have been built up over the years in this problem.

Q. Mr. Folliard: Mr. President, I gather then that you think the school construction bill should be freed of any amendment that might block it?

THE PRESIDENT. This is what I believe: the school construction bill should be passed. Now, if Congress wants to put the other on, and does it, I will understand why they are doing it. But I just simply say, let's get the school bill; that is what I want.

Q. James B. Reston, *New York Times*: This one won't take more than 10 minutes, I don't think, sir.

In your press conference in Florida, I believe you said that you had all the factors about your political future marshaled in order in your mind. I wonder if you could indicate to us what those factors were, and in what order?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I will tell you, Mr. Reston, I won't take the time except to say this: we are not talking now about a man who has been ill and who has had, let's say, a full year to decide what he can do in the next 4 years. I think it was yesterday it was 4 months since I had this illness that started all this type of questioning.

Now, I have to guess as to the next 5 years. The problem is what will be the effect on the Presidency, not on me; that is the problem. You can yourself, without any long dissertation here, just lay out all of the factors of the energy, the intensity with which you can attack your problems, the zip and the zest that you can take into conferences when you have to get something done for the good of the United States.

This morning I may feel very zestful, but I do know that I have had an attack.

That is my problem, and I hope I am not going to dillydally too long about it.

Q. Edward P. Morgan, *American Broadcasting Company*: This is a fragment of Mr. Reston's question. Mr. President, have you now set a date for your February medical examination, and is it safe to assume that you will not announce your intentions regarding '56 until after that examination takes place?

THE PRESIDENT. I don't think there is anything safe to assume about any of my impulses. [*Laughter*]

But I will say this: I asked the doctors myself when they wanted to hold this examination, because I am hopefully looking forward to a little southern trip, and they told me they thought it would be possibly before the middle of February; they thought it would most likely be before the middle of February.

Q. Sarah McClendon, *El Paso Times*: Mr. President, Mr. Edmund Masure, who administers, I believe, about \$9 billion in the General Services Administration, has been under attack by the Brooks subcommittee of the House for the manner in which he allowed subcontracting and fee-splitting to take place at the nickel plant down in Cuba. I wonder if you made any study of this relative to firing him?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, you add a postscript to your question that's completely—well, I assure you I will just ignore it.

But the fact is that as quickly as I saw evidence of this, I asked for a complete investigation on what has happened. I will get it in due course; and that's as far as I have gone.

Q. Martin S. Hayden, *Detroit News*: Mr. President, I am sure you will recall, sir, that these questions as to your political future were going on before you went to Denver and became ill. I wonder now, sir, if you could take the lid off and tell us what your intentions were then, if you had any intentions? [*Laughter*]

THE PRESIDENT. You'd really have me in a jackpot if my answer then was "no."

Q. Oscar W. Reschke, *German Press Agency*: Mr. President, the German Foreign Minister suggested yesterday, urged the West to seek a new Big Four meeting. He said that the last meeting at Geneva failed for lack of sufficient——

THE PRESIDENT. He said what?

Q. Mr. Reschke: He said the last meeting at Geneva failed because of lack of sufficient preparation. I was wondering whether you could give us your opinion on that?

THE PRESIDENT. The last Big Four foreign ministers meeting?

Q. Mr. Reschke: Yes.

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I should say that it didn't fail for any lack of preparation. But I haven't even heard a suggestion of any new one.

Now, it is always easy to say these things fail for lack of preparation. But, remember, that meeting had been advocated by many for at least 2 years, and there was plenty of time to prepare. So if it wasn't sufficient preparation it was merely because of lack of ability somewhere.

Q. Robert E. Clark, International News Service: You sort of left us hanging on the date of this next physical examination.

THE PRESIDENT. They told me they didn't know the exact dates because they wanted to get all the doctors together, but before the middle of the month. I would say maybe between the 10th and the 15th.

Q. Mr. Clark: Can you tell us when you hope to go South?

THE PRESIDENT. I don't know exactly; I don't know.

Q. Kenneth M. Scheibel, Gannett News Service: Mr. President, Senator Johnson of Texas says your farm program has been a failure. Do you have any comment?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I'm not going to comment on what he says. I didn't read his comments. But I will say this: it would appear that all farm programs, starting way back right after the close of World War II, have not succeeded in reaching a stated objective, which was to bring the farmer up to his fair share of participation in the productivity of this country. And the only time since the close of World War II where that was relatively true was right in the middle of the Korean War.

Now, the program that we worked so hard on just went into effect in '55. Its first effect on the farmer was with the wheat crop in '55, not before that.

So, always recognizing it is a very broad problem, not one to be solved merely by one thing we could call a panacea, we have gone right across the board with the farm bureaus, the Grange, every farm leader we can get a hold of, and devised what we believe

to be a farm program that offers a real future to the family-sized farm throughout the country; and if it does that, it's certain that commercial-sized farms will prosper.

At the same time, recognizing that they are now at this moment behind the rest of the economy, it provides features that begin to bring in money instantly, such as the refunding of the gasoline taxes, the increased money for the purchase of pork, the increased prices on flax seed and a few other, soybeans; and the extension and provision of credit for the farmer to carry him when he is in a bad hole. All of those things, and then on top of that the acreage reserves, if they will go into that as quickly as the Congress can pass the law and certificates can be issued, arrangements made, they can start getting money on it even late this spring and early summer. So I think there is a broad program here that if Congress will act on it promptly, the farmer will begin to experience real relief.

Q. Mr. Scheibel: Does that mean, sir, that if the Congress this year votes to reinstate the 90-percent support, you would reject it, as part of an overall bill?

THE PRESIDENT. I don't believe I will speculate. I am just telling you I put in a program and I want to see that passed.

Q. Andrew F. Tully, Jr., Scripps-Howard: Mr. President, I hope I can get away with this question—[*laughter*—I wanted to ask.

THE PRESIDENT. I just wanted to see how long I had left.

Q. Mr. Tully: I just want you to say yes or no to this: do any members of your family object to your running again, sir?

THE PRESIDENT. No.

Q. Marguerite Higgins, New York Herald Tribune: Mr. President, in light of Khrushchev's disparagement of your aerial inspection plan put before the Supreme Soviet, do you still have hopes for disarmament and a disarmament agreement with the Russians at some time soon?

THE PRESIDENT. Do I have hopes for what?

Q. Miss Higgins: A disarmament agreement with the Russians at any time soon.

THE PRESIDENT. Well, as everybody has always known, any move for disarmament is going to be slow, tortuous, and certainly gradual, even at the best.

Now, as a preliminary to disarmament, the great thing I was trying to promote was some confidence in each other that there would be an elimination of opportunity for surprise attack, which would set the stage for definite steps and proposals in disarming.

I would say as of now we have only one recourse, to remain strong, to remain true to our own moral concepts of right and justice in the world, to make no compromise on those, but to do the best we can in negotiations, whether they are big or little, to reduce these tensions and pave the way for future disarmament.

As of now, I would say you couldn't go any further than that statement.

Q. Charles E. Shutt, Telenews: Mr. President, you have told us in this room before that your home in Gettysburg is the first one you and Mrs. Eisenhower enjoyed in something over 40 years.

During your recent illness you have had some time to spend at your farm and your now permanent home. If it isn't too personal, sir, did you miss the bustle of the Presidency while you were there?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, it seems to me to be a fair question, although I don't know if it is terrifically important.

Anybody who has been busy, when he doesn't have immediately something at hand, has a little bit of a strange feeling. But to say that I was bored to death at Gettysburg—there are so many things that I have to do. I have piled up stacks of books I never have had a chance to read, and I am trying to get through. I, as you know, daub with paints. I like the actual roaming around on a farm. I love animals. I like to go out and see them. I have got a thousand things to do in this world, so I don't think I would be bored, no matter what it was.

Q. Chalmers M. Roberts, Washington Post and Times

Herald: Mr. President, on the foreign aid matter, some of the resistance to the long-term part of the proposal at the Capitol among members of both parties appears to stem from the implication that the administration looks to foreign aid, economic foreign aid, as more or less a permanent thing.

Do you consider that in this present so-called competitive co-existence phase that economic aid must be more or less a permanent part of our foreign policy?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, of course, some words are difficult to use. It is like "never" in bridge, or "How long is a piece of string." When you say "permanently," I don't know.

Now, this is what I say: honest people who have studied problems ought to sit back and say, "In what way can we spend our money to achieve the maximum of national security to give our people the confidence that will enable them to go about their ways in their day-to-day life raising their families, making good citizens, and so on?"

Now, I think that as of this time, and certainly for the near future, the near time, part of that money has got to go in helping friends.

For example, friends in certain instances—take Korea: Korea, I suppose, gets the largest single bite out of all this money. But they are keeping up an army of some 20 divisions. All right, their economy has to be supported or they can't do it. In other words, it is just that simple.

Now, we want them to keep those divisions there, for the moment. So it is a question of where do we get the most for our dollar. And I believe that that means we not only go out and show these people our common purposes to achieve freedom and maintain independence, but that when necessary we help them to make a living and to carry out their part of the program.

Q. Joseph R. Slevin, New York Herald Tribune: To return to the tax question, sir, will you make a fresh appraisal of the prospects for tax reduction after you have seen how large the spring tax collections are?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I think it is fair to say this: this is a matter that is appraised, certainly every week and sometimes every day. I meet constantly with my financial advisers, with the economic advisers, where are we going?

Now, I really believe that you stimulate a greater productivity when you can lower taxes as far as possible. But we have got our bills to meet. And so I would go very, very slow in this fiscal year in which we now are until I see what is going to happen. And I certainly would not, on the basis of the slim surpluses we can show in prospect, I would certainly not be advocating any tax reduction at this time.

Q. Clark R. Mollenhoff, Des Moines Register: Mr. President, within the last week some middle western Congressmen have been at the White House discussing the low pork prices and beef prices, and stating some things about the drastic political situation that exists. I wonder if you could tell us what you think about the political situation surrounding this farm problem, and if you think it is a real problem for the Republican Party or if it is just imaginary?

THE PRESIDENT. Oh, of course, any time any group believes—and, particularly, with reason—that they are falling behind the average of the Nation in their returns they are getting for their products, there is trouble. We ought to do something about it.

The depressed areas are just another example of the same thing we are talking about. So, since in all these latter years governmental action has had so much to do with some of these things, of course there is a problem presented to every political leader. The problem is to solve it for the good of the United States, and just that one factor. That is the problem that is always there.

Q. Frederick Kuh, Chicago Sun-Times: Mr. President, would you say what you consider a correct definition of the desirable bases for a common American-British policy regarding the Middle East?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, no, I don't think I would want to

undertake here this morning a discussion along that line, and arrive at a conclusion which could be stated as such.

I do believe this: from the beginning I have pursued one policy. I told friends from both sides of that quarrel before I was elected, indeed before I was nominated, meeting them in Europe, I believe there is only one solution: America must be friends with both sides, and by doing so use all of its good offices every day of the year to promote some kind of friendship, at least cooperation, between the two sides of the quarrel. There is just no other answer.

Q. Charles W. Roberts, *Newsweek*: Sir, if you don't seek reelection, would you attempt to pick your successor or would you favor a wide-open convention?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I think that until we answer the first question, let's don't go beyond that.

Q. Robert E. Clark, International News Service: Chief Justice Warren is one of those mentioned as a possible Republican candidate if you decide not to run. There is a school of thought, however, that it is bad policy under our form of government for the Chief Justice to return to active politics.

Can you tell us how you feel about this view with particular application to Mr. Warren?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I will answer that, if you will pardon a personal allusion.

The second I was nominated by the Republican Party, I resigned from the Army; but the day I left Europe I retired from the Army, and went without pay until nominated, and then I resigned.

Now, I just don't believe we ought to cross over, we oughtn't to get the military and the civil powers tangled up. We shouldn't get too great a confusion between politics and the Supreme Court.

I will put it this way: on every official there lies a responsibility to do his part in keeping these separations and keeping each

part of the organization, each part of the Government, respected in the eyes of the people.

Q. Laurence H. Burd, Chicago Tribune: Could you tell us how you might plan to make your announcement on your political plans? Will it be at a press conference? Will it be a speech?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I suppose it will be just as dramatic as I can make it. [*Laughter*] I must tell you, though, that is one thing I haven't given any thought to.

Q. Mrs. May Craig, Maine Papers: Mr. President, most of the farm legislation deals with helping the farmer. I would like to put in a plea for the consumer. Can you do nothing so that American people can eat the surpluses cheap? My family would love to have pork chops.

THE PRESIDENT. Well, as a matter of fact—of course you don't qualify under this bill for the very low income groups. [*Laughter*] There is already a program that is being more widely applied right now. I think New York State has just gone into it. Michigan is contemplating the subject, and there these surpluses do go out.

Now, the difficulty is how can you support prices up to a certain place and then give them cheaper than that to the consumer?

I do believe this: we should never give over the study of the differential between the price that the farmer gets and you pay, and see how we can reduce that. I believe that differential must be just as low as we can make it.

Q. Edward T. Folliard, Washington Post and Times Herald: Mr. President, this is in the interests of clarity. In answering a question about Vice President Nixon, whether he would be on the ticket with you, you said until you confer with him you would have nothing to say. It sort of seems to me to imply that you would confer with him.

THE PRESIDENT. Well, this is what I said: I will confer with Vice President Nixon no matter what my own decision is because, as I told you, he has my respect, my admiration. Never has there been a Vice President so well-versed in the activities of Govern-

ment. He has attended every important meeting. He has gone to numerous nations, been widely and favorably accepted in those nations; so I wouldn't possibly move on anything that affected his future until I knew his desires, and I don't. I don't know his desires at all.

Q. Edward Jamieson Milne, Providence Journal: One further question on health, sir. Is health now the only problem with which you are wrestling with respect to your future decision or are there still some other factors?

THE PRESIDENT. I think you asked a question that no one can answer. If you take into question your own health, you begin to think of a lot of things, and they are all pertinent. So I don't think I can answer that.

Merriman Smith, United Press: Thank you, Mr. President.

NOTE: President Eisenhower's seventy-eighth news conference was held in the Executive Office Building from 10:31 to 11:02 o'clock on Wednesday morning, January 25, 1956. In attendance: 224.

21 ¶ Special Message to the Congress on the Nation's Health Program. *January 26, 1956*

To the Congress of the United States:

The Nation in recent years has made notable advances in the unending struggle against disease and disability. Human suffering has been relieved, the span of man's years has been extended. But in the light of the human and economic toll still taken by disease, in the light of the great opportunities open before us, the Nation still has not summoned the resources it properly and usefully could summon to the cause of better health.

Therefore, as a Nation, we must now take further steps to improve the health of the people. This further effort, funds for which have been included in the Budget submitted to the Con-

gress, should be a characteristically American partnership—a partnership in which private and governmental enterprise are joined to advance the national welfare. The important role of the Federal Government is to provide assistance without interference in personal, local or State responsibilities.

Such action should be taken in several general areas, through—

A substantial increase in Federal funds for medical research.

A new program of grants for construction of medical research and training facilities.

Further steps to help alleviate health personnel shortages.

Measures which will help our people meet the costs of medical care.

Action to strengthen certain other basic health services throughout the Nation.

MEDICAL RESEARCH

Progress in medicine is dependent upon research. Intensive studies by thousands of scientists have been responsible for important advances in recent years against such major afflictions as rheumatic fever, epilepsy, high blood pressure, poliomyelitis and blindness.

The development of antibiotics has had a major share in bringing about dramatic reductions during the past ten years in the death toll from many other diseases—for example, tuberculosis 75 percent, appendicitis 69 percent, acute rheumatic fever 66 percent.

The widespread use of the Salk poliomyelitis vaccine within the past year alone has proved highly effective in reducing the threat of paralytic poliomyelitis to many of our children.

Yet much remains unknown. Despite progress in the control of cancer, its cause remains a dark mystery. Little is known about the diseases of the nervous system. Much remains to be discovered about heart disease and mental illness.

In order to facilitate the expansion of medical research, I have, therefore, proposed in the budget submitted to the Congress an

appropriation to the Public Health Service for the National Institutes of Health of \$126,525,000—an increase of 28 percent over the total funds appropriated for the present fiscal year.

This program is designed to give major emphasis—through an increased share of funds—to basic research. For basic research—in the biological and medical sciences—underlies all medical progress. Through increased emphasis on these fundamental studies, we bring into better balance the total medical research effort.

The appropriation I have recommended would provide a substantial increase in funds in various categories of research. The program would provide funds as follows: for cancer \$32,437,000; heart disease \$22,106,000; mental illness \$21,749,000; arthritis and metabolic diseases \$13,345,500; neurology and blindness \$12,196,000; infectious and parasitic diseases \$9,799,000; dental disorders \$2,971,000; and \$11,922,000 for the general research programs of the National Institutes of Health.

The increased funds recommended would be expended in part at the laboratories of the National Institutes of Health. But by far the major share of the increased funds would be for research grants to medical schools, hospitals and private laboratories. Funds for these research grants would be increased by 47 percent over this year's appropriation.

The increase of seven million dollars recommended for research grants by the National Science Foundation would provide for additional research in the biological and medical sciences.

These programs would permit a broader and more intensive scientific effort to develop the fundamental knowledge necessary to a better understanding of illness and to apply that knowledge more rapidly to relieve human suffering.

MEDICAL RESEARCH AND TEACHING FACILITIES

The bulk of medical research is conducted in laboratories of universities, hospitals, and other institutions outside the Federal Government. These institutions also provide the intellectual

environment for training the scientists upon whom successful research depends. And they provide the training ground for medical practitioners.

Physical facilities of medical research and teaching institutions are inadequate to meet the human needs of the Nation. As we strive to achieve better health for the people, we must help to provide the needed laboratories and teaching facilities.

I, therefore, recommend that Congress enact legislation authorizing \$250,000,000 for a five-year program to assist in construction of research and teaching facilities for schools of medicine, osteopathy, public health, and dentistry and other research institutions. These institutions would be required to supply at least equal amounts in matching funds.

HEALTH PERSONNEL

The rate at which physicians are being graduated from the Nation's medical schools is barely keeping pace with the increase in population. There are serious shortages in such specialized fields as psychiatry, pediatrics, and in physical medicine and rehabilitation. Relative to population, the number of dentists and nurses is diminishing. The aging of our population and the increase in the incidence of chronic disease, the anticipated continued growth of voluntary health insurance plans, and the general expansion of our economy—all will tend to increase the demand for health services.

The increase in funds which I have requested for the National Institutes of Health and the National Science Foundation will permit a major increase in trainees and research fellows. The program of construction grants for medical research and teaching facilities also offers the opportunity for medical, dental and other professional schools to expand their student capacity and provide for the training of more physicians, scientists, dentists, and other health workers.

As additional Federal aid in meeting the problem of existing personnel shortages in the health field, I recommend to the Con-

gress, as was proposed in my Health Message of last year, enactment of legislation to provide for (a) a five-year program of grants for training practical nurses, (b) traineeships for graduate nurses, and (c) authority to establish traineeships in other public health specialties.

MEETING THE COST OF MEDICAL CARE

Since World War II the costs of medical care have been increasingly met through voluntary health insurance. More than 100 million persons are now enrolled in prepayment health insurance plans of some type. But health insurance coverage is still not available to many who need it, and the character and amount of insurance protection in important respects remains inadequate.

Health insurance protection must be made more available to older persons and those living in rural areas, to the self-employed and those working in small organizations who cannot be reached through ordinary group enrollment methods. There is particular need for much broader coverage against the cost of long term or other especially expensive illness, which can be a financial catastrophe for many families.

The need for more and better health insurance coverage can best be met by building on what many of our people have already provided for themselves—the voluntary health prepayment plans. Much can be done to encourage more rapid expansion and improvement of such plans.

Last year and the year before I urged enactment of a proposal for Federal reinsurance to encourage increased protection against the cost of medical care through voluntary prepayment plans. Since the legislation was introduced, private insurance organizations have developed new types of policies and prepayment plans and have extended coverage to groups formerly unprotected. There are now indications that the organizations writing health prepayment plans might progress more rapidly by joining together—sharing or pooling their risks—to offer broader benefits and expanded coverage on reasonable terms in fields of special

needs. The Administration is considering legislative proposals which would permit such pooling. But, if practical and useful methods cannot be developed along these lines, then I will again urge enactment of the proposal made last year.

Illness and disability are among the principal problems of public assistance recipients, and are major causes of dependency. Therefore, I again recommend that the Congress authorize a separate program through which the Federal Government would match funds expended by the States and localities for medical care for the indigent aged, the blind, the permanently and totally disabled, and dependent children.

Additionally, I renew my previous recommendations for (a) providing Federal employees with the benefits of group health insurance, and (b) the improvement of medical care for the dependents of servicemen.

STRENGTHENING BASIC HEALTH SERVICES

Expansion of medical research, financial assistance for construction of research and teaching facilities, measures to increase research and health manpower, and steps to help meet the costs of medical care are essential to national progress toward better health. It is equally essential that other public health services be strengthened and improved.

I present the following further proposals for consideration by the Congress:

Sickness Surveys.—Information on the nature and extent of sickness and disability is neither accurate nor up-to-date. The last comprehensive survey of illness in the Nation was made twenty years ago. Since then American medicine has experienced the most rapid and dramatic changes in its history. Improved statistical data are essential as a guide for research and for the effective planning and operation of health programs.

I urge the Congress, therefore, to authorize the Public Health Service to secure periodically needed information on the incidence, duration and effects of illness and disability in the Nation.

Expansion of Medical Care Facilities.—The Federal-State program of aid in the construction of hospitals and other medical care facilities was broadened in 1954 to give greater emphasis to the construction of chronic disease hospitals, nursing homes, diagnostic and treatment centers, and rehabilitation facilities.

I recommend the extension for two more years of this program, which otherwise would terminate in 1957. I have also proposed in my Budget Message a \$19,000,000 increase in funds to expand construction of these needed facilities.

I again urge the enactment of the proposal I made last year for Federal insurance of mortgage loans made by private lending institutions for the construction of hospitals, clinics, nursing homes and other types of private medical care facilities. This proposal follows the pattern developed in successful Government guaranty programs in other fields.

Indian Health Program.—As an important step toward improving health conditions among our Indian population, I recommend legislation which will authorize the Public Health Service to construct and maintain urgently needed sanitary facilities for our Indian population. For the total Indian health program, I propose a substantial increase in the funds of the Public Health Service.

Mental Illness.—Mental illness is one of our most serious national problems. Last year I recommended authorization of a new program of mental health project grants. The purpose of this program was to seek ways of improving the quality of care in mental institutions, of improving the administration of these institutions, and, most importantly, of reducing the length of stay in these institutions. I again urge that the Congress authorize this program.

Water and Air Pollution.—Problems of water pollution control grow more pressing with population growth and with industrial development and expansion. The present Water Pollution Control Act expires on June 30 of this year. I again recommend that the authority in this Act be strengthened and placed

on a permanent basis. This would enable the Public Health Service to help the States and industry to deal effectively with the problems of pollution control.

I have also recommended a substantial increase in funds to broaden the research attack on problems of air pollution by non-Federal institutions and by the Public Health Service and other Government agencies. This will also permit a step-up in technical assistance to States for the control of pollution.

Poliomyelitis Vaccination Assistance Act.—Last year Congress approved an appropriation of Federal funds to assist the States in providing free poliomyelitis vaccine for many of our children and expectant mothers. This program expires February 15. I have recommended an extension to June 30, 1957, and an appropriation of \$30,000,000 to complete this program.

Increased Support for Food and Drug Administration.—Last year a committee of distinguished citizens made a thoughtful study and presented numerous recommendations for strengthening and improving the Food and Drug Administration in its important work of protecting the American consumer. I have recommended a significant increase in funds for the Food and Drug Administration to provide for an initial expansion of its inspection and related technical staff.

Public Health Aspects of Civil Defense.—The skills and resources of the Public Health Service and the Food and Drug Administration will be of great value to the Nation in dealing with any civil defense emergency that may arise. The Federal Civil Defense Administration has delegated vital responsibilities to these agencies, and I have included funds in the budget to strengthen research on the public health aspects of civil defense.

Vocational Rehabilitation.—The Congress in 1954 authorized an expansion of the Federal contribution to the Federal-State program of restoring handicapped men and women to more productive lives. I have recommended the funds needed to continue expansion of this program.

Veterans' Medical Program.—The medical care of our veter-

ans remains a growing responsibility, and in the next fiscal year the hospitals of the Veterans Administration will have an average daily load of 111,500 patients. I have included in the Budget a request for \$53 million for construction and improvements at Veterans Administration facilities, about one-half of which is for replacement of old hospitals.

CONCLUSION

The Congress has enacted enlightened and progressive legislation during recent years which represents substantial gains in the unending war against disease and disability.

I now urge the Congress to give continued support to the quest for better health. The proposals I have submitted call for a proper distribution of responsibility among the many groups which make up the health services of the Nation—health professions, educational institutions, foundations, industry, and all levels of government.

The role of the Federal Government in this great effort is that of a partner. The Federal Government should support the efforts of the States and communities and private agencies. It should encourage the individual initiative and industry inherent in our free society. The specific measures which I have placed before you are conceived in terms of these basic American principles; they provide promise for a renewed and reinvigorated attack on our health problems.

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

22 ¶ Letter to Philip Young, the President's
Adviser on Personnel Management, in Response to
Report on Hoover Commission Recommendations.
January 26, 1956

Dear Mr. Young:

The reports of the Commission on Organization of the Executive Branch of the Government headed by former President Herbert Hoover have been the subject of extensive study in the Executive Branch of the Government. Everyone associated with Mr. Hoover in this great enterprise has a right to take pride in the most comprehensive evaluation ever undertaken of the organization and functioning of the Executive Branch of our Government.

One of the most important reports submitted by the Commission deals with Personnel and Civil Service. The Commission recommendations are based on an excellent Task Force study led by President Harold W. Dodds of Princeton. I have read with great interest your memorandum which sets forth the actions taken to date to carry out the recommendations contained in this report. I am encouraged by what has been accomplished thus far and am eager to see to it that we make further progress as rapidly as possible.

The Commission points out very effectively the degree to which better direction of the affairs of Government and improvement in the general level of its services to our people depend upon improved Federal personnel management. To be well-governed, a democratic nation must attract to public life citizens who possess high qualities of leadership. Yet, experience shows that many able men are reluctant to enter the public service except in times of national emergency. This problem has been recognized by many of my predecessors. The Commission emphasizes the vital

need of strengthening our political executive group and offers many valuable suggestions for meeting this problem. I request that you develop for early consideration a program of action which takes these suggestions into account.

The Commission also emphasizes the need to strengthen the career service. Because politically appointed executives tend to serve for limited periods, continuity in the administration of Government functions depends on a strong career service. It is increasingly essential to our democratic system that our career personnel be competent, well trained and nonpartisan. The Commission points to the dangers of permitting career servants in the course of their work to become identified with partisan policies, and thus subject to personal attack.

The Commission addressed itself to this difficult and long-standing problem and developed criteria for designating the tasks which are appropriate for political appointees as distinguished from those which should be assigned to career employees. The Commission points out very properly that its suggested criteria must be applied with some degree of flexibility. I believe that these criteria are basically sound and that they provide a useful guide for a practical division of responsibility between these two groups of public servants. I note that you will work with the Civil Service Commission and the Bureau of the Budget to develop plans for applying the recommended criteria.

In evaluating the career service, the Commission finds that the Government has need for a systematic program for selecting, developing and making more effective use of its top level civilian career employees. Our present Civil Service System was not designed to meet this need. One of the most far-reaching and imaginative proposals made by the Commission calls for the establishment of a senior civil service from which persons would be drawn to fill the highest career posts in Government. This group would be composed of civilian career employees selected by

a bi-partisan board on the basis of superior ability and competence. In the conduct of their jobs, they would be nonpartisan. They would be expected to serve whatever Administration is in power with energy and loyalty. I am fully in accord with the principles upon which this highly constructive proposal is based. In preparing a plan to implement this proposal, great care must be taken to provide safeguards that will assure the impartial selection of personnel for this service and the performance of their tasks on a nonpartisan basis. I suggest that the Civil Service Commission submit promptly its analysis and recommendations.

In dealing with personnel procedures, such as performance ratings, appeals and reductions-in-force, the recommendations of the Hoover Commission contemplate certain modifications of rights granted to veterans in public employment. In making recommendations to the Congress, the Executive Branch should consider these proposals carefully so as to make certain that proposed changes are equitable and just both to veterans and non-veterans in the public service. The relatively minor changes in veterans rights that are recommended should be weighed against the very large opportunities for improved administration inherent in the recommendations of the Commission. I request that you complete your analysis of these proposals as promptly as possible so that they can receive early attention.

We have accumulated over many years a mass of laws and orders affecting our personnel systems and procedures. The report recommends codification of these laws as a means of simplifying Federal personnel administration. I note that provision has been made in the current budget request for funds necessary to carry out this much needed project.

You are aware of my great interest in the continued improvement of the operations and management of the Federal Government. The Commission report on Personnel and Civil Service makes an important contribution to this objective. I am asking all of the departments and agencies of the Executive Branch to

cooperate with you in the development of a program designed to derive the maximum benefit from these recommendations.

Sincerely,

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

NOTE: Mr. Young's report, entitled "Memorandum for the President, January 25, 1956," was released with the President's letter. specific actions taken on the Hoover Commission recommendations on personnel and civil service (H. Doc. 89, 84th Cong., 1st sess.).

The report outlines briefly the

23 ¶ Letter to Nikolai Bulganin, Chairman,
Council of Ministers, U. S. S. R., Regarding
Proposed Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation.
January 28, 1956

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I wish to thank you for your letter of January twenty-third, delivered to me by Ambassador Zaroubin. I have given it careful thought.

Let me say at the outset that I do indeed believe that the present international situation requires all states, particularly the great powers, to seek to lessen international tension and strengthen international confidence and cooperation.

As the power of destruction grows, it becomes imperative not merely to strive to control and limit that power, but also to do away with antagonisms which could tempt men to use that power. That view, I can assure you, is held by the people of the United States and by their political leaders without any exception whatsoever.

I am confident that that view is also shared by all the peoples of the world, and that those who have been entrusted with political authority have a high duty to respond to the universal longing of the peoples for peace.

As you are good enough to recall, I have more than once alluded to the immensely valuable asset we have in the historic friendship between our peoples. I profoundly believe that upon that foundation better political relations could be established. I can assure you, Mr. Chairman, that there is in the whole world no people more sincerely dedicated to building a structure of peace than the American people. Our whole nation longs for a cessation of the strains and dangers now present in the international situation. There is indeed no honorable thing that we would not do if we were convinced that it would promote a just peace in the world.

It is from this viewpoint that I have examined your present suggestion that the cause of peace would now be served by the conclusion between our countries of a treaty of friendship and cooperation of twenty years duration.

I first observe that our countries are already bound to each other by a solemn treaty—the Charter of the United Nations. The treaty which you now propose would consist of three substantive articles. I observe also that each one of these is already covered by the explicit provisions in this United Nations treaty between us.

The first article of your draft would bind our two countries to develop friendly relations between our peoples on the basis of equal rights, mutual respect and non-interference in internal affairs. As members of the United Nations we are already bound through that organization “to develop friendly relations among nations based on respect for the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples.”

The second article of your proposed treaty would bind us to settle our international disputes by peaceful means alone. This is an undertaking to which our two countries are already bound by the provisions of Article 2 (3) of the Charter of the United Nations which specifies that “all members shall settle their international disputes by peaceful means.”

The third article would bind us to the strengthening of economic, cultural and scientific cooperation. Chapter IX of the Charter of the United Nations dealing with "International Economic and Social Cooperation" pledges us to work for "solutions of international economic, social, health and related problems," and to "international cultural and educational cooperation."

The Charter of the United Nations constitutes a solemn treaty not only between your country and our own—it is a treaty among many countries, all of whom are bound to us and to each other, and all of whom are concerned with world peace. The American people sincerely desire to help make reality of these Charter goals.

But the present state of international tension was not prevented by the words of the Charter. How can we hope that the present situation would be cured merely by repeating those words in a bilateral form?

I wonder whether again going through a treaty-making procedure, and this time on a bilateral basis only, might indeed work against the cause of peace by creating the illusion that a stroke of a pen had achieved a result which in fact can be obtained only by a change of spirit.

Friendly collaboration between states depends not solely upon treaty promises but upon the spirit that animates the governments of the states concerned and upon actual performance.

It was in the hope of promoting such a spirit and such performance that I went to Geneva last July, a course which had no peacetime precedent in American history. Despite the doubts of many that the mission would, in fact, serve any useful purpose, I felt that the existing situation was so serious that no chance for improvement, however slight, ought to be neglected. In Geneva you expressed similar views and aspirations.

I had earnestly hoped that out of that meeting with you and with the Heads of Government of France and the United Kingdom would come a bettering of international relations, especially as between the four nations there represented and in relation to

particular problems for which our four nations had a particular responsibility.

Unhappily, the American people have had sadly to conclude that the events following our meeting have not given substance to their hope.

Permit me to recall to your mind a short record of recent events.

At Geneva we directed our Foreign Ministers to propose effective means for the solution of three specific problems.

The first of these problems was that of European security and Germany. We explicitly agreed that the settlement of the German question and the reunification of Germany by means of free elections should be carried out in conformity with the national interests of the German people and the interests of European security. However, despite constructive proposals put forward by the three Western powers for German reunification and European security, your Government felt that it could not at this time entertain any proposal dealing with the reunification of Germany by means of free elections.

The second problem was that of disarmament. In our Geneva discussion of that problem I made my "open skies" proposal in the hope that we might actually do something to convince the world that we had no aggressive purposes against each other. But this proposal your Government rejected at the Foreign Ministers meeting.

The third problem was the development of contacts between East and West. The Western Ministers proposed many concrete measures to bring about closer relations and better understanding, none of which was accepted by your Government. Despite that fact there has, as you point out, recently been some improvement in contacts between the Soviet Union and the United States of America.

A further deterioration has taken place because to us it has seemed that your Government had, in various areas of the world, embarked upon a course which increases tensions by intensifying hatreds and animosities implicit in historic international disputes.

I share your conviction that an improvement in Soviet-American relations is urgently needed. But frankly, our people find it difficult to reconcile what appears to us to be the purposes of your Government in these areas with your present words—words which so rightly emphasize the special responsibility of our Governments to lessen international tension and strengthen confidence and cooperation between states.

I deal with the history of this past year solely for the purpose of enabling us with better prospect of success to chart our future. This nation holds out the hand of friendship to all who would grasp it in sincerity. I have often said, and I now repeat, that there is nothing I would not do to promote peace with justice for the world. But we know that it is deeds and not words alone which count.

Consider, Mr. Chairman, what a vast change would be effected not only in our relations but throughout the entire world if there were prompt measures to reunify Germany in freedom within the framework of security; if there were carried out our wartime pledge to respect the right of peoples to choose the form of government under which they will live; if there were arranged such mutual opening of our countries to inspection that the possibilities of surprise attack would vanish and if reduction of armament were made practical, with the release of productive power for the betterment of mankind. Consider, also, the mountain of distrust and misunderstanding that would disappear if our peoples freely exchanged news, information, visits and ideas.

These are all matters which you and I have discussed together at Geneva. They are results to which my nation remains dedicated and toward which we are prepared at any moment to move in a spirit of conciliation. May I hope, from your letter, that you, too, are dedicated to these great ends?

I shall look forward to receiving a further expression of your views.

Sincerely,

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

NOTE: Mr. Bulganin's letter of January 23, 1956, and the proposed treaty of friendship and cooperation between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States are published in the Department of State Bulletin (vol. 34, p. 193).

24 ¶ Statement by the President Upon Signing
Bill for the Relief of Mr. and Mrs. Derfery
William Wright. *January 31, 1956*

I HAVE TODAY APPROVED H. R. 1015, "For the relief of Mr. and Mrs. Derfery William Wright."

This Act provides for payment to Mr. and Mrs. Derfery William Wright, father and mother of a deceased serviceman, the amount of death compensation which the Administrator of Veterans Affairs finds would have been payable to them during the period from February 1948 to November 10, 1952, the date they began receiving death compensation, had they filed a claim on the earlier date. The amount, if any, which they will receive will depend upon whether or not, and, for what portion of the period in question, the Administrator determines that the parents were dependent within the purview of the applicable public law.

Ordinarily, I am opposed to setting aside provisions of the general law relating to veterans' benefits programs. A careful review of the facts convinces me, however, that special equities exist in this case which make it exceptional.

The record establishes that these surviving parents of a deceased serviceman made application for monthly death compensation payments early in 1948 but erroneously submitted their application to the State Veterans agency rather than to the Veterans Administration. They were subsequently advised by an officer of the State agency that the Veterans Administration had disapproved their application; whereas in fact their application was never brought to the attention of the Veterans Administration. Although they mistakenly relied upon this misrepresentation, it

appears they did so in good faith and under circumstances which, to them, seemed to justify reliance. Because of the unusual circumstances of their case and the efforts made by them in 1948 to assert their claim, I agree with the Congress that they should be given the opportunity to prove the facts upon which their 1948 application was based.

NOTE: As enacted, H. R. 1015 is Private Law 507, 84th Congress (70 Stat. A9).

25 ¶ Statement by the President on the Death of Governor Paul Patterson of Oregon.

February 1, 1956

I WAS DEEPLY SHOCKED and distressed to learn of the sudden, tragic passing of Governor Paul Patterson. He was a distinguished citizen, dedicated to the service of his fellowmen. I was privileged to call him my good friend. Mrs. Eisenhower and I extend our sincere sympathy to Mrs. Patterson and the members of the family.

26 ¶ Joint Statement Following Discussions with Prime Minister Eden. *February 1, 1956*

AT THE END OF THREE DAYS of friendly and fruitful reunion, the President and the Prime Minister issued the following statement:

Conscious of the unity of purpose of our two countries, we have restated in a separate Joint Declaration our view of the challenge which confronts the free world and the principles which it seems to us are required to meet it. In our conversations, we have also reviewed other matters of mutual concern to the two governments in various areas of the world.

I. EUROPE

We reaffirm that the North Atlantic Treaty is essential to our common security. We regard this association as far more than a military alliance. We welcome the increasing range of consultation in the Council on political and other problems.

In the economic field we recognize the contribution which the OEEC makes to the stability of Europe. Within the framework of the Atlantic Community, and with regard for its broader interests, we support further progress on the continent toward unity, both political and economic.

With respect to Germany, we agree that so long as it remains divided, there can be no genuine and stable peace. We shall continue our efforts to bring about the reunification of Germany in freedom. We regard the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany as the only German Government freely and legitimately constituted, and therefore alone entitled to speak as the representative of the German people in international affairs.

We reaffirm our abiding interest in the security and welfare of Berlin. We shall continue, as we have stated in the past, to regard any attack against Berlin from any quarter as an attack upon our forces and ourselves.

II. MIDDLE EAST

We discussed the tensions which prejudice the stability of the area and carry a potential threat to world peace. It was agreed that every effort should be made to decrease sources of misunderstanding between this area and the Western world. We are eager to contribute wherever possible to the settlement of difficulties between states in the region. We wish to help peoples of this part of the world achieve their legitimate aspirations.

A settlement between Israel and her Arab neighbors is the most urgent need. This will be possible only if both sides are willing to reconcile the positions which they have hitherto taken. Our two Governments have declared their readiness to contribute

to such a settlement by assisting financially in regard to the refugee problem and by guaranteeing agreed frontiers.

In the meantime we are concerned at the state of tension in the area and have considered what steps can be taken to reduce it. The Tripartite Declaration of May 25th, 1950, provides for action both inside and outside the United Nations in the event of the use of force or threat of force or of preparations to violate the frontier or armistice lines. We are bound to recognize that there is now increased danger of these contingencies arising. Accordingly, we have made arrangements for joint discussions as to the nature of the action which we should take in such an event. The French Government is being invited to participate in these discussions.

We believe that the security of states in this area cannot rest upon arms alone but rather upon the international rule of law and upon the establishment of friendly relations among neighbors. The action of the Soviet bloc in regard to arms supplies to Middle East countries has added to the tensions in the area and increased the risk of war. Our purpose is to mitigate that risk.

We express our full support for the efforts of General Burns, head of the United Nations Truce Supervisory Organization, to maintain peace on the borders. We would favorably consider recommendations for any necessary enlargement of his organization and improvement of its capabilities.

We discussed the work of the Baghdad Pact and agreed upon its importance for the security of the Middle East. We noted that this association, in addition to its defense aspects, has an important part to play in the economic and political development of member countries. We believe that it serves the interests of the area as a whole and provides no reason for impairing the good relations we wish to maintain with non-member countries.

The United States Government will continue to give solid support to the purposes and aims of the Pact and its observers will play a constructive part in the work of its committees.

We reviewed the situation in Arabia and the Persian Gulf, with particular reference to current disputes and differences in that area. We believe that these differences can be resolved through friendly discussions.

III. SOUTH AND SOUTHEAST ASIA

We reaffirm our view that the Southeast Asia Treaty Organization is a stabilizing influence. We will continue to give it our full support and to work with those countries who are associated with us as our allies in this organization. We welcome the cooperation of our allies and ourselves with other free nations in this important area, through such organizations as the Colombo Plan, in developing the resources and well-being of all participating countries.

IV. FAR EAST

We discussed the situation in the Far East. We are firmly united in our purpose: to deter and prevent aggressive expansion by force or subversion, and to assist the free nations of the area in their self-defense and in maintaining domestic stability and welfare. We are agreed that our policies must be directed to achieve these ends. After frank discussion, some differences remain in our judgments as to the most effective means to achieve these purposes.

We are agreed that trade controls should continue and should be reviewed now and periodically as to their scope, in the light of changing conditions, so that they may best serve the interests of the free world.

V. ATOMIC ENERGY MATTERS

We noted with great satisfaction that atomic energy information now being exchanged as a result of the agreements concluded between our Governments last June represents a gain to the common security. We discussed the development of our close cooperation in this field. We confirmed our resolve to push forward with the setting up, with suitable safeguards, of the Inter-

national Agency for the promotion of the peaceful uses of atomic energy.

NOTE: For the Joint Declaration see the heading "I. Europe," refer to Item 27. the Organization for European Economic Cooperation.
The initials OEEC, as used under

27 ¶ The Declaration of Washington: Joint Declaration by the President and the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom.

February 1, 1956

WE ARE CONSCIOUS that in this year of 1956, there still rages the age-old struggle between those who believe that man has his origin and his destiny in God and those who treat man as if he were designed merely to serve a state machine.

Hence, we deem it useful to declare again certain truths and aims upon which we are united and which we are persuaded are supported by all free nations.

1. Because of our belief that the state should exist for the benefit of the individual and not the individual for the benefit of the state, we uphold the basic right of peoples to governments of their own choice.

2. These beliefs of ours are far more than theory or doctrine. They have been translated into the actual conduct of our policy both domestic and foreign. We are parties to the Atlantic Charter, the United Nations Charter, the Potomac Charter and the Pacific Charter. In them we have, with other friends, dedicated ourselves to the goal of self-government and independence of all countries whose people desire and are capable of sustaining an independent existence. During the past ten and more years 600 million men and women in nearly a score of lands have, with our support and assistance, attained nationhood. Many millions more are being helped surely and steadily toward self-govern-

ment. Thus, the reality and effectiveness of what we have done is a proof of our sincerity.

3. Further, we know that political independence cannot alone assure men and nations full opportunity to pursue happiness and to fulfill their highest destiny. There is likewise need for economic sustenance and growth. This, too, we have helped to provide. We seek to develop with others a large volume of mutually beneficial trade. Likewise we seek, through Technical Assistance, the Colombo Plan and other programs we support, to help economic progress in the less developed countries and to raise the living standards of their peoples. In these programs we have not sought nor desired extension of either economic or political power. The purpose is not to dilute, but to enrich and secure their freedom.

4. During this period of notable cooperative progress in the free world, those who assert the supremacy of the State and deny the inherent rights of man have also been active. Millions of people of different blood, religions and traditions have been forcibly incorporated within the Soviet Union, and many millions more have in fact, although not always in form, been absorbed into the Soviet Communist bloc. In Europe alone, some 100 million people, in what were once 10 independent nations, are compelled, against their will, to work for the glorification and aggrandizement of the Soviet Communist State.

The Communist rulers have expressed, in numerous documents and manifestos, their purpose to extend the practice of Communism, by every possible means, until it encompasses the world. To this end they have used military and political force in the past. They continue to seek the same goals, and they have now added economic inducements to their other methods of penetration.

It would be illusory to hope that in their foreign policies, political and economic, the Soviet rulers would reflect a concern for the rights of other peoples which they do not show towards the men and women they already rule. Any free nation that may be persuaded by whatever threat, promise or enticement to embrace

Communism will lose its independence and its people will forfeit their rights and liberties. These contrasting records of recent years reflect the essence of the struggle between free countries and the Communist rulers.

5. In the face of the Communist challenge, almost 50 nations which cherish freedom have drawn together in voluntary associations for their collective security. These associations uphold for all their members the right to independent existence, the right to free expression and the right to differ. The purpose of their union is to preserve those national rights, just as within a state people join together to preserve their individual rights.

6. We reject any thought that the cleavage we have described should be resolved by force. We shall never initiate violence. Moreover, we shall use our full influence to assure that Soviet efforts to inflame old antagonisms will not succeed in breaking the peace. The United Nations provides appropriate machinery to assist countries desiring peacefully to bridge their differences and to settle disputes.

Many nations of the free world are ever anxious to proffer their good offices to promote the same end. Our two countries stand constantly ready to aid in negotiation and conciliation with others directly concerned, so as to achieve just settlements of the concrete issues that now trouble the world.

7. We shall persevere in seeking a just and lasting peace and a universal and effectively controlled disarmament which will relieve mankind of the burden and the terror of modern weapons. Meanwhile, the society of free nations must retain the power needed to deter aggression. We recognize that such power should never serve as a means of national aggrandizement but only as an essential shield for every member of the community of nations.

We are determined to make the conquest of the atom a pathway to peaceful progress, not a road to doom.

8. We will not be deflected from the policies and purposes we have herein stated. On the contrary, we will maintain and,

where necessary, strengthen and extend them. Thus, we shall help ourselves and others to peace, freedom and social progress, maintaining human rights where they are already secure, defending them when they are in peril and peacefully restoring them where they have temporarily been lost.

While resolutely pursuing these aims, which are the products of our faith in God and in the peoples of the earth, we shall eagerly grasp any genuine opportunity to free mankind of the pall of fear and insecurity which now obscures what can and should be a glorious future.

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER
ANTHONY EDEN

28 ¶ Remarks at Annual Breakfast of the
International Council for Christian Leadership.
February 2, 1956

Mr. Chairman and Mr. Hilton and my friends:

It is a touching thing that Mr. Hilton has done in presenting to me this plaque and the desk and the chair where I wrote the little prayer that I used at the Inauguration some three years and more ago.

That incident brought to me a great lesson. It seemed to me a perfectly natural thing to do. I was seeking some way to impress upon the audience at that moment that all of us realized a new Chief Executive was being inaugurated over a nation that was founded on a religious faith.

Our founding documents so state. In explaining, you know, our government and what we intended to do in the Declaration, our founding fathers held it was our Creator that gave us certain rights, and this government was set up to sustain them.

So that seemed to me a perfectly natural thing to do, as an emphatic way of showing that I also realized it.

Now it was with some astonishment that I began to see this response. Literally thousands of messages coming in, some of them from people who did not particularly think I was the man to occupy that place that day, still applauded that act.

And here is the lesson as I see it. I know very few men, I know very few people that tell me they are atheists or they are even agnostics, but we find among the laity a curious diffidence in merely stating the fact that they believe there is a God and He is more powerful than I and I am dependent upon Him. That is what the prayer did, and it was because a layman as I see it, did do so—and of course, in such a position—that this response came in.

Now I think that that prayer is somewhat related to these prayer breakfasts. We can stay in our quarters—we can pray. But by gathering occasionally—and I understand this whole ceremony is something of a week long—by announcing to the world that we come up as laymen and meet, making the same acknowledgments that are made in that prayer, we are doing exactly the same thing: we are telling people that this nation is still a nation under God.

This is terrifically important today. There has been too much of the world that believes the United States to be completely materialistic, boastful, proud and arrogant. It makes no difference how they have achieved it or how they have been misinformed in order to achieve such a feeling, but it is there. Traveler after traveler, poll after poll have reported the same thing.

It is such meetings as this, continued, repeated, and brought home to them, that help to dispel this very great and dangerous delusion. It still is a nation that is founded on the religious faith, with great concern for the sentiments of compassion and mercy that Mr. Hilton so eloquently spoke about. That is what we want others to think about when they think of the United States.

People have talked of the spirit of Geneva. The thing that the spirit of Geneva did accomplish. and at least so far has not been destroyed—one part of it that is valuable—is that people there,

in watching that conference, gained a belief that the United States was truly trying to follow in the footsteps of the Prince of Peace, and to establish a just peace for the world.

That is a tremendous gain, in this day of fears, hysteria and sometimes too great a reliance on force.

Though we be strong—I believe if I am not misquoting even the Bible says “When the strong man armed keepeth his palace, his goods are in peace”—we intend to remain that strong, but let us always do it with certainty that anyone who will come in integrity, observing the moral values that we know are imbedded in this great religious faith, that he will be received as a friend and taken with us down the road to the future in peace.

I had no intention of making a speech. As a matter of fact, I was promised I didn’t have to—and I don’t know how I got started. But thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at the Mayflower Hotel, Washington, D. C., at 8:40 a. m. His opening words “Mr. Chairman and Mr. Hilton” referred to Frank Carlson, United States Senator from Kansas, and Conrad Hilton, host at the breakfast.

the first paragraph was engraved with the prayer offered by President Eisenhower on the occasion of his inauguration on January 20, 1953. The desk and chair were from the Presidential suite of the Statler Hotel, Washington, D. C., which the President occupied before his inauguration.

The silver plaque referred to in

29 ¶ Letter to the President of the Senate and to the Speaker of the House of Representatives on National Park System Plan “Mission 66.”

February 2, 1956

Dear ———:

Our National Parks, Monuments and Historic Sites, and other areas comprising the National Park System, are valued and irreplaceable national treasures. It is the responsibility of the

Federal Government to preserve them and manage them perpetually for the enjoyment of all Americans.

With an increasing appreciation of the inspiration and recreation which these areas offer, more and more of our people are visiting them every year. The Secretary of the Interior has recently informed me that visitor attendance is growing so rapidly that the parks are being damaged and all services and facilities are seriously over-taxed. Unless vigorous action is taken, many Americans visiting the parks will be frustrated in gaining the scenic and educational benefits they seek and deserve.

The Secretary of the Interior and the Director of the National Park Service have been deeply concerned, as have I, about these inadequacies. They have just completed a thorough study of the present and future needs of the National Park System and have prepared a comprehensive, ten-year plan, known as "Mission 66," to meet these anticipated needs. The plan provides for a well-balanced schedule for protection, development, and staffing which can begin immediately.

I have requested the Secretary of the Interior to submit this plan to the Congress and, to the extent that funds are available therefor in the current fiscal year, to make an immediate beginning. There will shortly be transmitted to the Congress an amendment of the 1957 Budget so that adequate provision may be made for carrying the program forward without delay in the new fiscal year.

Sincerely,

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

NOTE: This is the text of identical letters addressed to the Honorable Richard M. Nixon, President of the Senate, and the Honorable Sam Rayburn, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

A letter from Secretary McKay

dated February 1, 1956, transmitting the plan, was released with the President's letter. The text of the Secretary's letter is contained in a 120-page multilithed pamphlet entitled "Mission 66," submitted by him to the Congress on February 2.

30 ¶ Letter to Clinton P. Anderson, Chairman,
Joint Committee on Atomic Energy, Concerning
Report of Panel on Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy.
February 3, 1956

[Released February 3, 1956. Dated February 2, 1956]

Dear Senator Anderson:

I am very much obliged for your letter of January 30th forwarding a copy of the Report of the Panel of distinguished citizens, under the Chairmanship of Mr. Robert McKinney, who have studied the impact of peaceful use of atomic energy and the work of the Atomic Energy Commission.

The members of the Panel have performed a valuable public service and deserve the sincere thanks of the Government. Their work will be of special assistance to those bearing responsibility for developing and fostering the peaceful uses of atomic energy, both at home and abroad—in particular, the State Department and the Atomic Energy Commission—and careful attention will be given to the findings and recommendations of the Report.

The confirmation by the Panel that there is reason for pride in the Commission's accomplishments to date is a source of gratification to me, and of confidence that there will be continued and effective efforts toward an ever-widening peaceful use of atomic energy in the future.

Sincerely,

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

NOTE: The nonpartisan Panel on the Impact of the Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy, consisting of nine private citizens, was created by the Joint Committee on Atomic Energy in March 1955. Its report, dated

January 30, 1956, was issued as a Joint Committee Print (2 vols., 84th Cong., 2d sess.; Government Printing Office, 1956).

In his letter to the President, Senator Anderson states "while none of

the members of the Joint Committee has as yet reviewed the Report, I believe that the judgments of these outstanding citizens may be of such

consequence that the transmission of a copy to you at this earliest opportunity is warranted."

31 ¶ Letter to Arthur B. Langlie, Chairman, the Governors' Conference, Transmitting Report of Interdepartmental Committee on Narcotics.
February 6, 1956

[Released February 6, 1956. Dated February 4, 1956]

Dear Governor Langlie:

I enclose a report which has just been completed by the Interdepartmental Committee on Narcotics, representing the Departments of State, Treasury, Defense, Justice, and Health, Education and Welfare. It is a careful study of the problem from all aspects. It can form the basis for a systematic review and improvement of various national, State and local narcotic programs.

Among its recommendations are several relating to increased activity by State and local governments, and closer cooperation with the Federal authorities and among themselves. Because of the deep, common interest of all of us in taking every practicable step to stamp out narcotics addiction, I am sending this report through you, as Chairman of the Governors' Conference, to the individual governors for their consideration. All of us are, I am sure, in agreement that the narcotics problem demands our prompt and thoughtful attention to the end that effective action may be taken in our respective fields of responsibility.

I should like to take this opportunity to convey, through you and the other members of the Conference, my thanks to the many

people in State and other levels of Government who have cooperated with the Committee.

Sincerely,

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

NOTE: The report was the result of a study begun in response to the President's letter of November 27, 1954, to the heads of the departments represented on the Committee. It contains sections covering the following subjects: drug controls in the United States; drug addiction—character of the problem; the enforcement program; treatment and rehabilitation; Federal, State, and local responsibilities. The report

concludes with 14 detailed recommendations for integrated Federal, State, and community action.

The Committee's report, transmitted to the President on February 1, 1956, by Secretary Humphrey, was released with the President's letter. It was also made available in a 17-page pamphlet entitled "Report of Interdepartmental Committee on Narcotics to the President" (Government Printing Office, 1956).

32 ¶ The President's News Conference of February 8, 1956.

THE PRESIDENT. Good morning; please sit down.

I have no announcements of my own. We will go right to questions.

Q. Merriman Smith, United Press: Mr. President, will you announce your decision about running again before the end of this month?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I have always avoided a fixed date for saying exactly what I would do. But it would seem to me that I ought to have as much information by the end of this month as I am going to get, so I will put it that way.

Q. Nat S. Finney, Buffalo Evening News: Mr. President, at Key West you mentioned the impact of your attack upon the stock market. I am curious as to whether, in making your plans for an announcement, you have given thought to the possible

impact of that announcement on the stock market, and whether any care might be taken in that connection?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, of course, I don't know why the stock market fell when I got sick. As a matter of fact, I think I brought it up because of the fact I didn't know it until several weeks later.

I have, ever since this occurrence, tried to say that I have honestly got to be convinced that I think I can carry this job efficiently.

Now, I have never said anything that was more hopeful than any doctor said. I have, on the contrary, tried to be a little bit on the, let's say, cautionary side rather than on the optimistic in the hope that if the time came when I had to say, in all justice, that I don't believe I should try to do this, that there would not be the kind of shock—as I say, I don't know why—but there would not be that kind of a shock if it were possible to avoid it.

Q. Charles S. von Fremd, CBS News: Mr. President, also going back to that Key West conference again, sir, you mentioned at that time, I believe, that, of course, you would consult with what you referred to as your trusted advisers before reaching such a decision. I just wonder, have you talked to your brother and to Mr. Hagerty—I think you mentioned—and some others, since then?

THE PRESIDENT. I've talked literally to dozens of people.

Q. Mr. von Fremd: About the decision of making up your mind?

THE PRESIDENT. That is correct.

Q. Ray L. Scherer, National Broadcasting Company: Mr. President, there has been some mention of your brother; there has also been some political speculation involving your brother Milton. I am wondering if you have ever had any intimation from him that he would be receptive to political nomination?

THE PRESIDENT. Well—[*laughter*—]on the contrary, all he has ever said to me, it's been exactly the opposite. And because of that, during these years that I have been here, any help I have

had from him has been voluntary and, let's say, in nonofficial positions, except that quasi-official position when he was visiting as my personal representative in other countries.

No; I know nothing at all. If he has any political ambition, it is unknown to me.

Q. Martin S. Hayden, *Detroit News*: Mr. President, in your last answer as to the doctor's report, your use of the words "optimistic" or "pessimistic," and so forth, if you read that over, we might get the impression, sir, that you hope you will be able to run.

THE PRESIDENT. I am afraid you are getting me a bit tangled up here.

I have tried—as I said from the beginning—I have told you I have tried to be very honest about this. Now, a doctor's sole care is with his patient. He doesn't have to think about the things I do in trying to solve this problem. But I now should have some inkling of what the job demands, and its strains, its emotional strains, its periods of intense concentration, and I should know, therefore, from my own feeling as much as anything else, and I think I will probably trust my own feelings more than I will the doctor's reports. I am just trying to be honest in saying I will give an answer as quickly as I possibly can, and I think I will have that information soon.

Q. William McGaffin, *Chicago Daily News*: Mr. President, I believe it has been about a month since you have been back, subjected to the full strains of the Presidency again.

Have you anything you could tell us this morning about how you feel, yourself, after having put yourself under that strain?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, you know, there may be some other coronary people in this room, for all I know. [*Laughter*]

But it does seem to be a little bit of a strange sort of thing, and as far as your own personal feelings are concerned, let us say, they are not steady or stable.

Rarely have I known any time in my life when I had to be concerned about my own physical feeling, outside of flu or a cold

or something like that. I have been one of those fortunate creatures in good health.

Now, there are times, unquestionably, when I would feel more tired than I think I would have in the past, but that may be also just advancing years.

The doctors certainly say that my physical reaction, the clinical record, is splendid today.

Q. Laurence H. Burd, *Chicago Tribune*: Mr. President, in response to the first question, I think you indicated we might expect an announcement by about the first of March. Am I correct in that?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I am not going to be tied down to a promise, because when I make a promise I keep it, if it is humanly possible.

I just say that I think that the information that is going to be available to me should all be in pretty well by that time.

The only thing that, of course, I could use more time for at all is to test myself; how am I going to feel. But I think I can't go much longer than that, and be honest with myself.

Q. Mr. Burd: Excuse me, going over farther, might we expect the announcement possibly before you take the southern vacation?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I have been pinned down as far as I am going to be pinned down this morning, Mr. Burd.

Q. David P. Sentner, *Hearst Newspapers*: Mr. President, will you make your announcement at your news conference?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, as a matter of fact, I will say this: here is where I would like to make it. For my part, I have had relations with this group that I have treasured, and this would be a logical place to make it.

Now, when I do make such an announcement, it will probably need some explanation, and the longer explanation will not be here; but probably an announcement would be here. That would be my guess if it can work out that way.

Q. Alan S. Emory, *Watertown Times*: Mr. President, entirely

aside from your own plans, sir, would you care to comment on the part you would like to see former Governor Dewey of New York play in the forthcoming campaign for the Republican Party?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I couldn't comment on it because I haven't mentioned a word to him about it.

Actually, the way a campaign is organized, except for the principal candidates, is through the national committees, and they get their speakers, and do all that sort of thing. So I imagine that would be the place to go talk about it.

This is the first time I have thought of it.

Q. Robert E. Clark, International News Service: I hate to bring up this matter again. Because of the widely varying interpretations placed on your answer to a question about Chief Justice Warren, some people got the idea that you would be opposed to Warren as the Republican candidate, if you don't run again yourself. Did you really mean all that?

THE PRESIDENT. Opposed? For goodness sake, I appointed him as Chief Justice of the United States; and there is no office in all the world that I respect more.

Of course I admire and respect and have a very deep affection for Mr. Warren. What I was trying to say, he had made a statement in which he argued for the complete separation of the judiciary and politics, and I was supporting him in his views.

Now, there are many ways in which he could be a candidate. And if he were, he would have no opposition from me; of that, I assure you.

Q. Sarah McClendon, El Paso Times: Mr. President, would you say what you think of large campaign contributions and their relationships to influence on public actions of officials?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, the trouble with commenting on such a subject again is the indefiniteness of "large." For a wealthy man, who is just genuinely interested in his country, and is not seeking any return therefor—what would be a very small contribution for him could be a very large one for me or for you.

When you begin to talk about a corporation or organization,

organizations and pressure group contributions, I think we have got a field that we should do some very earnest study on, and I do believe that we must continuously watch the whole proposition of putting money into political campaigns from the standpoint of this: is it absolutely disinterested money or is someone trying to get something for it? I think it is a field that we can never let up on.

It isn't merely campaign contributions. It is a thing we must be just as watchful and vigilant as we can be because our country depends upon honest, joint convictions honestly arrived at.

Q. Lloyd M. Schwartz, Fairchild Publications: Mr. President, in your economic report you asked Congress to study whether a standby authority to control installment credit was necessary. Since then Mr. Humphrey has told the Joint Economic Committee that he thought such controls were not necessary, and were unwise. I wonder whether you still feel that such standby authority should be enacted, and the study should be given to it?

THE PRESIDENT. If you read my report carefully, I said that under present conditions they are not necessary—that is exactly what I said.

Now, I asked that they study it; the question of legislative controls or authorities in several fields to be used in what you call a standby classification has always been a bit argumentative.

I just assure you of this: if Congress, in its wisdom, should decide that there should be standby controls not to be used under current conditions at all, but only when conditions obviously dictated them, so far as I am concerned they would never be abused in this administration. In other words, I wouldn't quarrel with Congress on this subject, but I do say they are not necessary at this moment.

Q. Charles E. Shutt, Telenews: Mr. President, is there anything you can tell us, sir, about your continuing correspondence with Premier Bulganin, and any hopes you might have for what might come out of that correspondence?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, several times, I think, I have dis-

cussed this question of hopes and expectations and, let us say, gains with which we are satisfied.

I have now a reply to make to Premier Bulganin's latest note. We are studying it every day, and an answer will be forthcoming, for the reason that no matter what our convictions as to past performance, of breaking of treaties and the denunciation of treaties, and so on, we must never be in the position of blocking any avenue, no matter how tiny or how tortuous, that may lead toward peace.

But I couldn't express any hope in more explicit terms than that. As long as we keep up a correspondence that is not bitter in tone, and is not just mere denunciation of the other, there is always some faint hope that something may grow out of it.

Q. Frank van der Linden, Richmond Times Dispatch: The Agriculture Department yesterday turned down a request from the American textile industry for import quotas on foreign textiles. I was wondering whether that has your approval or whether there is any chance that you might overrule that decision against the quota?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, the decision hasn't been brought up to me, that particular one. But I have always been against quotas. I think quotas are a very bad way to handle our foreign trade, if we can get out of it. Now, I realize that in a few products we haven't. But I don't believe in them.

Q. Alice A. Dunnigan, Associated Negro Press: Mr. President, do you feel, sir, that the recent outbreak at the University of Alabama is a violation of Federal law and order? If so, do you plan to recommend that the Justice Department investigate the situation?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, the Justice Department is already looking into it. I don't have to plan to order them. Automatically, when anything comes up that might affect Federal law, they look into it.

But, you must remember, the Supreme Court decision turned this whole process of integration back to the district courts, and

the district courts were specifically instructed to handle it under the conditions that apply locally, so far as they can.

While there has been an outbreak that all of us deplore, when there is a defiance of law, still the chancellor and the trustees, the local authorities, the student body and all the rest of them have not yet had an opportunity, I should think, to settle this thing as it ought to be settled. I would certainly hope that we could avoid any interference with anybody else as long as that State, from its governor on down, will do its best to straighten it out.

Q. Chalmers M. Roberts, *Washington Post and Times Herald*: Mr. President, could we come down to a very local matter in the District of Columbia? The hardy perennial District home rule has passed the Senate again, and is pigeonholed in the House committee.

I wonder if you would express your views at this point on the right of the people in the District to vote.

THE PRESIDENT. Well, you use an expression that I don't know that is correct. You say "pigeonholed," and they may be just engaged in study, I don't know.

But I have expressed myself a number of times on the right of the people here to vote.

At the same time, it is idle to compare this city to any other city in the United States. It was established by the Federal Government for a Federal headquarters, and the city has grown up around that complex. Now, that doesn't deny the citizens, as I see it, of their right to rule themselves. But since it was established as a Federal headquarters by the Federal Government, in a swamp, really, they have rights, too, that must be carefully safeguarded, outside of the normal authorities and responsibilities of an average city.

Therefore, any home rule system, in my opinion, must make some provision for the Federal Government taking care of its own interests in this field, in the ordinary sense.

Q. Roland Evans, *New York Herald Tribune*: Mr. President, two Democratic Senators have charged in the last week, sir, that

the United States lags seriously behind the Soviet Union in the production and development of guided missiles. Do you agree with that opinion, sir, and if not, could you give us your view?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I am always astonished at the amount of information that others get that I don't. [*Laughter*]

But I want to say this: this whole field of guided missiles is a very broad one. There are different methods of propulsion; there are different theories by which they would work. Some, indeed two, were used by the Germans against us in Europe.

There is the ballistic missile, one that is hurled into the air, and falls with such guidance as you can give it in the early stages of its flight at a predetermined point, or sometimes does; and then there is another kind that depends upon corrections in flight, in ordinary flight, with different types of engines in them.

Now, in this whole field, broad as it is in the production of engines, of instruments for guiding them, methods of propulsion, kinds of warheads and everything else, it would be idle to say that always you could be sure that in every single one of these fields we are ahead of anybody else.

I would like to make one or two observations: there are limits to what you can do in research and development. And in the budget now before Congress, as I recall, I asked for some one billion two hundred million or more money.

Now, there are only so many scientists. There are only so many channels you can pursue. Indeed, one of the things you have to watch is this: don't try to develop too many at once or you get in each other's way, and you block them all through the confusion and the demands you make on the scientific pools and every other kind of thing that you have in this whole field.

Now, I just want to ask you one thing, and if there is anyone here that has got the answer to this one, you will relieve me mightily by communicating it to me here or in private: Can you picture a war that would be waged with atomic missiles, well knowing that atomic missiles can be of little value unless they have a tremendously powerful explosive head on them?

In other words, they cannot be as accurate as shooting a gun or dropping a bomb from a plane; consequently, you must visualize these things in such numbers and using a kind of ammunition that means just complete devastation.

Moreover, if one side can do it, the other side can do the same thing by one means or another, because we know that today we have means, and so do other nations, of delivering these bombs in such a way that they cannot be 100 percent effectively intercepted. So you are bound to have this ruin, no matter what happens.

Now, to suddenly stop everything else and just to do this, you are working toward a theory that, to my mind, leaves no longer war, because war is a contest, and you finally get to a point where you are talking merely about race suicide, and nothing else.

That does not mean you should be complacent. I think we have proved we are not complacent in the amount of money we have put into it, and the positive orders that have been issued several times that the guided missile program has priority over any other in the Defense Department. If we find that this is a cheaper, better way of doing anything than we have now, more accurate, well then that is fine. But as of now this thing is being researched and developed as rapidly as it can be done in this country, so far as my experts and my people in the Defense Department tell me.

Q. Clark R. Mollenhoff, Des Moines Register: Mr. President, I wonder if you have received a report yet on Mr. Mansure's activities in connection with those insurance contracts in GSA?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I received reports of various kinds, and while they were coming in, Mr. Mansure resigned, and that was accepted. He resigned because of personal reasons and, he said, personal business that arose.

Now, automatically, anything that is considered a violation of law on the part of any official—it goes through and goes to the Attorney General, where it will be investigated. As far as I know, there has been nothing actionable turned up about Mr. Mansure.

But he resigned for personal reasons, and his resignation itself had nothing to do with this situation.

Q. Robert W. Richards, *The Copley Press*: Mr. President, in view of what the last session of Congress did to your postal rate increase, have you any reason to hope that the new session will be kinder to it?

THE PRESIDENT. I always hope that good sense will prevail.

We are the one country in the world that doesn't balance its budget in its postal service or come close to doing it.

We have these terrific deficits. There is one field where I have taken a great deal of pains to talk to the so-called little fellow, the people working around farms, the people that I meet in small towns where I go and, indeed, in the hospitals. Now, I find none of them that are opposed to this rate increase. Indeed, they say the post office ought to pay its way.

I don't know where are all the interests that are in opposition. But I do believe this: if we are trying to pay for such services as we get, as we go along, it seems to me almost that self-respect demands a raise in postal rates.¹

Q. J. Anthony Lewis, *New York Times*: Mr. President, at your last press conference you gave us your views on the proposed anti-segregation amendment put forward by Congressman Powell to the school construction bill. He has now written a letter saying that he would withdraw his amendment if he were assured that the administration would undertake, on its own, to withhold Federal aid from segregated schools without any such amendment. I wonder what you thought of that proposal, sir?

THE PRESIDENT. That proposal has not been made to me.

¹ The Postmaster General's report, dated January 30, 1956, sets forth details on deficiencies in postal revenue and physical plant, and pleads for increased rates. On February 1, 1956, the President transmitted the report to the Congress and urged that earnest attention be given the proposals.

The letter and the complete report are published in a committee print entitled "Communication from the President of the United States Relating to Postal Rates" (House of Representatives Committee on Post Office and Civil Service, February 2, 1956; 84th Cong., 2d sess.).

Q. Walter Kerr, New York Herald Tribune: Mr. President, just one more political question, sir: I wonder if you could tell us how your mail has been running?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, recently I haven't looked at it. But in the tabulations I saw a couple of weeks ago there are very few that are not on the side that if I would just organize my job properly it wouldn't be such hard work.

Q. Marvin L. Arrowsmith, Associated Press: Mr. President, to go back to that missile situation for a moment, Senator Symington said that he knows for sure that Russia has tested an intercontinental missile which will travel hundreds of miles further than anything we have tested. Do you know that to be a fact?

THE PRESIDENT. You are asking a question that I have habitually refrained from remarking on.

Now, I did say this: that there are various kinds of missiles, and in certain fields I am sure we are well ahead of the other side. In certain fields I think they are probably ahead of us. But those are limited fields in a great big field. I think overall, we have no reason to believe that we are not doing everything that human science and brains and resources can do to keep our position in a proper posture.

Q. Gould Lincoln, Washington Star: Mr. President, to return to the Chief Justice Warren matter for a moment, it has been suggested that if you would ask the Chief Justice to run, if you don't run, that he might agree to do it. Do you have anything in mind of asking the Chief Justice to run, if you don't run?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, no, I hadn't thought of that point. But I am not so certain that it would be within my province.

I have, as everybody else has, probably, my own ideas of what is a proper sphere of activity for the President of the United States. One of them, by the way, is that he doesn't go out barnstorming for himself under any conditions, and even had I stood for the Presidency again and never experienced this heart attack, I would never have gone out barnstorming for myself, as I felt it was my duty to do in 1952, having accepted that nomination.

But I don't believe that it is really appropriate for me to go around asking someone to do such-and-such a thing because that implies, I suppose, that I think I can put him there.

Q. Elie Abel, *New York Times*: Mr. President, in light of your talks last week with Prime Minister Eden, could you give us, sir, your assessment of the possibility of stopping or averting further conflict in the Middle East by joint Western allied action or through the United Nations?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, as you know, we agreed at that meeting to invite the French to a conversation to see what measures we could apply, either acting severally ourselves or through the United Nations.

Now, those meetings, I believe, started yesterday afternoon, and I have had no reply from them at all.

But I will tell you this: everything that I can constitutionally do will be done to prevent the outbreak of hostilities in that section.

Q. Robert G. Spivack, *New York Post*: Mr. President, could you tell us how you feel about the natural gas bill which is now before you?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I am not going to discuss it in great detail. I do refer you again to my belief that the Federal Government should not interfere in States business, if they didn't have to. I believe in free enterprise, and I believe in the exercise by the States of the rights that are specifically reserved to them, and that includes the production of their own natural resources.

However, when you get into the gas field, you, by the establishment of long lines and so on, get into the public utility business in a very distinct way. Therefore, I don't think this is something like buying wheat or buying corn or buying coal. Many of its proponents have likened it to that kind of thing—I don't believe that.

So I have said from the beginning that I want to find some way of preserving the rights of States that are preserved to them in the Constitution and, at the same time, protect the consumer who, having tied himself onto a gas line and bought his stove and so on,

is pretty well a captive of that system, because it would cost him a lot to try to transfer, and many of us can't afford that kind of thing.

So the only way I am studying that bill is: does it, within reason, meet the requirements I laid down?

Merriman Smith, United Press: Thank you, Mr. President.

NOTE: President Eisenhower's seventy-ninth news conference was held in the Executive Office Building from 10:31 to 11:01 o'clock on Wednesday morning, February 8, 1956. In attendance: 241.

33 ¶ Special Message to the Congress on Immigration Matters. *February 8, 1956*

To the Congress of the United States:

Throughout our history immigration to this land has contributed greatly to the strength and character of our Republic. Over the years we have provided for such immigration because it has been to our own national interest that we do so. It is no less to our national interest that we do so under laws that operate equitably.

The Secretary of State, the Attorney General, and the Commissioner of Immigration and Naturalization have made a thorough study of the operation of our present immigration laws, and have advised me concerning the changes and additions which they consider necessary in the national interest. I have carefully reviewed their findings and concur in their conclusions. The recommendations now made are based on those findings and conclusions.

This Message takes up four separate and distinct subject matters respecting our immigration policies: (1) the quota system and the use of national origins, (2) the private-relief-bill system of handling hardship cases, (3) unnecessary restrictions and administrative provisions of our immigration laws, and (4) judicial

review in deportation. Each such subject matter is treated separately because the problems in each are wholly distinct from the others. Accordingly, the recommendations as to each subject matter will, I hope, be considered separately and each on its own merit.

I.

The Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952 was developed essentially as a codification of many separate, and sometimes overlapping and inconsistent, immigration and nationality laws. It was thought inappropriate, in connection with that legislation, to revise our basic immigration policies. Moreover, at that time 1950 census information was incomplete.

The time has now come to consider those policies. Experience in the post-war world demonstrates that the present national-origins method of admitting aliens needs to be re-examined, and a new system adopted which will admit aliens within allowable numbers according to new guidelines and standards.

The Congress has traditionally formulated our basic immigration policies, and will doubtless wish to make its decision as to what new system should be established only after its own study and investigation of all possible choices. There are many factors that must be taken into consideration. Among these are: the needs of this country for persons having specialized skills or cultural accomplishments; close family relationships; the populations and immigration policies of countries sending immigrants to this country; their past immigration and trade relationships with this country; and their assistance to the joint defense of the friendly free nations of the world.

Pending the completion by the Congress of such study and investigation, it is essential that we take interim measures to alleviate as much as possible inequities in the present quota system. Accordingly, I recommend the immediate enactment of the following proposals.

First, the present quota system sets a maximum annual author-

ization of 154,657 quota immigrants. This figure is derived from a formula based upon the 1920 population. I recommend that total population as shown by the 1950 census be used as the base for determining the overall ceiling. I believe that economic growth over the past thirty years and present economic conditions justify an increase of approximately 65,000 in quota numbers. I recommend that Congress provide for such an increase by fixing the overall ceiling in terms of a percentage of total population as shown by the 1950 census. The new ceiling recommended would be approximately 220,000 quota numbers annually.

In order to eliminate some of the inequity resulting from the fact that several countries have large quotas which they do not use while others have small quotas which are usually oversubscribed, I recommend that the additional quota numbers—i. e. those over and above the 154,657 numbers now provided for—be distributed among countries in proportion to their actual immigration to this country since the establishment of the quota system in 1924.

This method of allocation will help to alleviate the problem of oversubscribed quotas. At the same time no country will have a lesser number of quota numbers allocated to it than at present.

Second, I recommend that the Congress set aside from the increased annual quota 5,000 numbers to be available for admission of aliens without regard to nationality or national origin. Use of these numbers would enable us to meet some of the needs of this country which develop from time to time for persons with special skills and cultural or technical qualifications.

The existing immigration law recognizes somewhat similar criteria for quota immigrants by giving a preference to those whose services are determined by the Attorney General to be needed urgently in the United States because of the high education, technical training, specialized experience, or exceptional ability—and to be substantially beneficial prospectively to the national economy, cultural interests, or welfare of the United States. Our needs and requirements should be determined on

the basis of consultation among the various departments and agencies of the Government, and also with the advice and testimony of private organizations.

This special pool has further value as an experimental plan departing entirely from our present system of distributing quotas on a basis of nationality or place of birth. It also would enable us to give greater assistance to persons abroad who have undergone suffering and hardship resisting Communist aggression, who would make beneficial contributions to this country, and who will not have the benefit of the Refugee Relief Act after that Act's termination.

Third, quota numbers that are unused by countries to which they are allocated should be made available for use elsewhere. Under our present law quota numbers which are unused by any particular country in the year in which they are available become void and may not be used by any other country.

I recommend enactment of legislation that will permit the utilization of unused quota numbers in the succeeding year. This should be done by pooling the unused quota numbers in each of the following areas: Europe, Africa, Asia, and the Pacific ocean area. These pooled quota numbers would then be distributed during a twelve-month period on a first come, first served basis among eligible applicants of the area, without regard to country of birth within the area. These quotas should be limited to aliens who qualify for preference status under existing law—persons having special skills or close relatives in the United States.

There is a further inequity in the quota system by virtue of the so-called mortgage on quotas resulting from the issuance of visas under the Displaced Persons Act and other special acts. The law provides that visas issued under these acts are chargeable against quotas authorized under the Immigration Act. The result is that the quotas of many countries are mortgaged far into the future. For example, fifty percent of the quota for Greece is mortgaged until the year 2017; for Lithuania, until 2090; for Latvia, until 2274. The total number so mortgaged for the year 1955

amounted to about 8,000, and over the total span of years the aggregate could be as much as 328,000. I recommend the elimination of this unfairness. This is consistent with the action of the Congress in enacting the Refugee Relief Act of 1953. Congress did not then impose additional mortgages on quotas but provided special non-quota visas for eligible refugees.

II.

For some time I have considered that undue and largely useless burdens are placed upon the Congress and the President by the avalanche in recent years of private bills for the relief of aliens. The number of these bills is strikingly high in comparison with the number of public enactments. In the First Session of the Eighty-Fourth Congress private immigration enactments alone accounted for 413 of 880 enactments, public and private; 3,059 such bills were introduced. During the Eighty-Third Congress, private immigration enactments accounted for 753 of 1,788 enactments, both public and private; 4,797 such bills were introduced. At the beginning of the present Session, there were 2,159 private immigration measures pending.

The Congress, in the performance of its constitutional duties, must consider the worthiness of each private immigration bill introduced. The President, in the performance of his constitutional duties, must consider the worthiness of each bill enacted. The Nation's interest would surely be better served if the bulk of these private immigration claims were handled through suitable administrative machinery and if the Congress and the Executive could thus give their full attention to more urgent national problems.

Under the private bill system of handling individual immigration cases, many persons fail to obtain the very relief which others have received, because Congress has not had the time to take up and act on the bills introduced for their benefit. Indeed there are many whose plight has not even come to the attention of the Congress.

For these reasons it is my belief that action is called for to provide the necessary administrative authority to take care of such cases. I hope that such action will be taken without delay so that it may be of help this year. The enactment of such authority, in my opinion, would substantially eliminate the need for private legislative redress in this area. I suggest that there should be vested in the Attorney General limited discretionary powers to grant relief with respect to admission and deportation of aliens. Such discretion should be limited to aliens with close relatives in this country, to veterans, and to functionaries of religious organizations, regardless of the technical statutory ground on which the alien is inadmissible or subject to deportation. These classes of cases embrace the great bulk of the hardship cases which appeal to our sense of fairness. However, no relief ought to be accorded aliens whose presence here would be dangerous to the safety and security of the United States. An appropriate charge against the applicable quota would be made in each case where relief is granted.

It should further be provided by the Congress that there shall be a ceiling on the number of cases in which such discretionary authority may be exercised.

III.

Experience under the existing immigration law has established that there are a number of changes, aside from the quota provisions, which should be made in the Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952. Some provisions create unnecessary restrictions upon travel to the United States, while others inflict great hardships upon the aliens affected. Consequently, I make the following recommendations:

Under the present law, every alien applying for a visa must be fingerprinted; and every alien admitted without a visa and remaining in the United States for thirty days or longer, even if here temporarily, must be fingerprinted. Although in our minds no stigma is attached to fingerprinting, it is not a requirement of

travel in other countries. We should be the first to remove travel obstacles which hamper the free exchange of ideas, cultures and commerce. Further, experience over the last three years has shown that this requirement does not significantly contribute to our national safety and security. The law should be amended to permit the Secretary of State and the Attorney General to waive the requirement of fingerprinting, on a reciprocal basis, for aliens coming here for temporary periods.

We must recognize the tremendous increase in air and surface travel in recent years. Aliens traveling from one country to another often find it necessary to pass through the United States without any intention to remain in or even visit this country. A South American flying to or returning from Europe, for example, will often pass through the United States. He should not be required to meet all of the standards for admission, coupled with inspection and examination, that normally apply. These requirements result in unnecessary hardships to the traveler, expense to the carrier, and loss of good will, without proportionate benefit to the United States. The law should be amended accordingly.

The present statute contains a restrictive requirement which makes it necessary for immigration authorities to inspect and apply all grounds of exclusion to aliens seeking admission to the mainland of the United States from Alaska and Hawaii. This requirement results in expense to the Government and causes delays and inconvenience in travel. It must be remembered that, by definition in the law, these Territories are part of the United States, and aliens who have entered or are present in them are subject to all the provisions of the Act. If the alien was deportable before he came to the mainland, he remains deportable. I recommend the elimination from the law of this unnecessary restriction upon travel.

The immigration laws presently require aliens to specify race and ethnic classification in visa applications. These provisions are unnecessary and should be repealed.

A large group of refugees in this country obtained visas by the use of false identities in order to escape forcible repatriation behind the Iron Curtain; the number may run into the thousands. Under existing law such falsification is a mandatory ground for deportation. The law should be amended to give relief to these unfortunate people.

The inequitable provisions relating to Asian spouses and adopted children should be repealed.

The Immigration Act grants special naturalization benefits to veterans of our Armed Forces who have completed at least three years' honorable service and who can submit proof of admission for permanent residence. Many have been unable to submit this proof. I recommend that proof of admission be not required in such cases.

The present statute is unnecessarily restrictive as to aliens who marry United States citizens. It forbids adjustment to permanent residence if the alien has been in the United States less than one year before the marriage. This disrupts the family and is expensive for the alien who must go abroad to obtain a nonquota visa, without proportionate benefit to the United States. I recommend that the requirement of one year's presence in the United States before marriage be repealed.

The above covers the principal changes which I recommend as a minimum toward amelioration of the immigration laws. Others will be suggested by the Attorney General.

IV.

Just as the Nation's interests call for a larger degree of flexibility in the laws for regulating the flow of other peoples to our shores, there is at the same time a significant need to strengthen the laws established for the wholesome purpose of ridding the country of the relatively few aliens who have demonstrated their unfitness to remain in our midst. Some of these persons have been found to be criminals of the lowest character, trafficking in murder, narcotics, and subversion. Constitutional due process wisely

confers upon any alien, whatever the charge, the right to challenge in the courts the Government's finding of deportability. However, no alien who has once had his day in court, with full rights of appeal to the higher courts, should be permitted to block his removal and cause unnecessary expense to the Government by further judicial appeals the only purpose of which is delay. I am concerned by the growing frequency of such cases involving as they often do the depraved and confirmed criminal. Accordingly, I have asked the Attorney General to submit to the Congress, a legislative proposal that will remedy this abuse of legal process.

I believe that these changes in our immigration and nationality laws, together with the amendments to the Refugee Relief Act which I have heretofore recommended to the Congress, not only will advance our own self-interest, but also will serve as living demonstrations that we recognize our responsibilities of world leadership. I urge their careful consideration by the Congress.

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

34 ¶ Joint Statement Following Visit of Rene Mayer, President of the High Authority, European Community for Coal and Steel. *February 8, 1956*

THE PRESIDENT of the High Authority of the European Community for Coal and Steel, M. Rene Mayer, called on the President this morning. M. Mayer discussed developments in the European Coal and Steel Community and its prospects for the future.

The President expressed to M. Mayer the friendly interest of the United States in the program of the European Coal and Steel Community, and in the activities of this first supra-national institution in Europe. He assured M. Mayer that the United States

regards continued progress towards European integration as a vital contribution towards security, welfare and freedom during the years ahead.

35 ¶ Letter to Senator George D. Aiken
Regarding Soil Bank Proposals. *February 8, 1956*

Dear Senator Aiken:

Your letter of February seven poses a question of great importance, and I am glad to comment on it.

You know, of course, the genesis of our soil bank proposals. As long as we go on accumulating surpluses, thereby depressing agricultural markets more and more, it will be impossible for our farming people to share fairly in the nation's growing prosperity. In order to have a free, prosperous agriculture, we must deal effectively with the problem of these surpluses. It is principally for this purpose that we have proposed the soil bank.

Of course, these price-depressing surpluses themselves are largely the result of high rigid price supports of wartime, too long continued in time of peace. It would be inconsistent to enact a soil bank program and, at the same time, reestablish production incentives that would again fill government warehouses, again depress prices, and thus defeat the main object of the soil bank.

I realize that there is always room for varying opinions on how best to resolve public problems. Nevertheless, in this instance, I must say that I should be gravely concerned if the soil bank should be coupled with the restitution of production incentives certain to nullify the great benefits that the bank can bring.

With warm regard,

Sincerely,

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

NOTE: In his letter, which was released with the President's reply, Senator Aiken requested the President to state his position as to in-

cluding with the soil bank proposals other provisions which would re-establish high rigid price supports. The Senate Committee on Agriculture, of which Mr. Aiken was ranking minority member, was then considering the President's nine-point farm program (Item 6, above).

36 ¶ Letter to Harlow H. Curtice, Chairman, the President's Committee for Traffic Safety.

February 9, 1956

[Released February 9, 1956. Dated February 7, 1956]

Dear Mr. Curtice:

Despite the fact that the 1955 traffic accident record showed a decline on a vehicle-mile basis, the number of fatalities on our streets and highways continues a major national concern.

If we are to reduce traffic fatalities in the months and years ahead, we must move forward more rapidly in applying the traffic safety measures set forth in the Action Program. Organized public support for these proved techniques was recognized by the 1954 White House Conference on Highway Safety as the primary essential to application by the States and communities. I am convinced that the Conference recommendation for the organizing of public support groups must be fully applied by all States, counties, and cities. To re-emphasize this urgency I am heartily in favor of a series of regional traffic safety conferences as you have suggested. I understand that the President's Committee for Traffic Safety is prepared to sponsor these conferences.

In view of the seriousness of the problem, will you, therefore, as Chairman of the President's Committee for Traffic Safety, arrange for these conferences as soon as possible. I am confident that you will find citizens and public officials ready to cooperate. In this connection, I am following your further suggestion that I write to the Governor of each of the States concerning the conferences.

You know my own intense interest in this problem, and you may be certain that you, and those who will work with you in this undertaking, will have my full support.

Sincerely,

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

NOTE: The Action Program is contained in a pamphlet developed by traffic safety committees and endorsed by the 1954 White House Conference on Highway Safety. For text of the letter to the governors, see Item 37.

37 ¶ Letter to the Governors of the States on Traffic Safety. *February 9, 1956*

[Released February 9, 1956. Dated February 7, 1956]

Dear Governor —————:

The appalling traffic toll requires our people's determination to increase and to extend the Nation's effort to make our highways safe. On a vehicle-mile basis we have made progress in recent years. But I am sure you will agree that this is not enough. Statistical progress does not lessen the tragedies that every year are visited upon thousands of American homes.

The Action Program, drafted at earlier conferences and strengthened and endorsed by the more than two thousand delegates who represented the states at the 1954 White House Conference, is definitely a step in the right direction. The question now is—how do we make it more effective?

To this end I am asking that the President's Committee for Traffic Safety consider the desirability of a series of regional conferences to intensify local participation in the Action Program. I am assured that this is possible and that the Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Harlow H. Curtice, will be in touch with you shortly concerning the details.

Your continued cooperation and support will be very much appreciated.

Sincerely,

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

NOTE: This letter was also sent to commissioners of the District of Columbia.
the President of the Board of Com-

38 ¶ Letter to Edward P. Curtis on His
Appointment as Special Assistant to the President
for Aviation Facilities Planning.

February 11, 1956

[Released February 11, 1956. Dated February 10, 1956]

Dear Mr. Curtis:

I am delighted that you have agreed to serve as Special Assistant to the President for aviation facilities planning. In this capacity you will be responsible for:

1. The direction and coordination of a long-range study of the Nation's requirements for aviation facilities.
2. The development of a comprehensive plan for meeting in the most effective and economical manner the needs disclosed by the study.
3. The formulation of legislative, organizational, administrative and budgetary recommendations to implement the comprehensive plan.

I am taking this action because the rapid technical advances in aviation and the remarkable growth in the use of air transportation have confronted the Nation with serious aviation facilities problems. Modern aircraft can be operated in the numbers required by the national defense and the civilian economy only if airports, navigation aids, air traffic control devices and com-

munications systems are suitable for their needs. Moreover, anticipated further increases in air traffic, the introduction of jet propulsion for civil as well as military aircraft, the advances being made in vertical flight, and the greater use of higher altitudes, all presage much heavier future demands upon our facilities for navigation and traffic control.

The preparation and acceptance of a comprehensive aviation facilities plan will provide the basis for the timely installation of technically adequate aids, for optimum coordination of the efforts of the civil and military departments, for the avoidance of costly duplications of systems and equipment, and for effective participation by State and local authorities and the aircraft operators in meeting facilities requirements. To delay the formulation of the plan is to invite further congestion of the air space, needless hazard, economic loss, inconvenience to users, and possible impairment of the national security.

The Departments of Defense and Commerce have responsibilities in the operation of aviation programs. But revolutionary possibilities and the all-embracing character of aviation development require an independent, over-all study of this national problem. That duty is placed upon you.

There already exists within the Government, and particularly in these two Departments, a wealth of experience, much of which should be helpful to you. In assembling the facts on aviation facilities needs and in developing the various elements of the comprehensive plan, you are authorized to call upon not only these two Departments, but upon any official of the Executive Branch for assistance. In fact, it is my expectation that the Departments and Agencies concerned with aviation will serve as your principal resource in carrying out your assignments.

I am transmitting copies of this letter to the Secretaries of Defense and Commerce with a request that they each designate a top-level officer to work with you and to assure the availability to you of every assistance which their Departments can provide.

I shall follow your work with deep interest. I shall expect that

from time to time you will give me reports of your progress and that you will promptly advise me of anything that I might do to expedite your work.

For your further information and guidance, there is enclosed a copy of the report recently submitted to the Director of the Bureau of the Budget by the Aviation Facilities Study Group.

Sincerely,

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

NOTE: The Aviation Facilities Study Budget, under the leadership of William Barclay Harding. The Group's report was submitted on December 31, 1955.

39 ¶ Telegram to the President of Italy
Expressing Sympathy for the People in
Snow-Stricken Areas. *February 11, 1956*

His Excellency Giovanni Gronchi
President of the Italian Republic

I wish to express to you in the name of the Government and the people of the United States our deep sympathy for the suffering caused to so many of the Italian people in the snow-stricken areas of your country.

Whatever assistance United States forces, stationed in Italy, may have been able to provide to alleviate this suffering is a matter of gratification to me and to the American people.

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

40 ¶ Citation Accompanying Medal of Freedom
Presented to Dr. John von Neumann.

February 15, 1956

CITATION TO ACCOMPANY
THE MEDAL OF FREEDOM
TO
DR. JOHN VON NEUMANN
FOR EXCEPTIONALLY MERITORIOUS SERVICE
IN FURTHERANCE OF
THE SECURITY OF THE UNITED STATES

Dr. von Neumann, in a series of scientific study projects of major national significance, has materially increased the scientific progress of this country in the armaments field.

Through his work on various highly classified missions performed outside the continental limits of the United States in conjunction with critically important international programs, Dr. von Neumann has resolved some of the most difficult technical problems of national defense.

In recognition of his many services to his country, it is my pleasure to award Dr. von Neumann the Medal of Freedom.

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

NOTE: The President read the citation to Dr. von Neumann and presented him with the Medal of Freedom at a ceremony at the White House on February 15, 1956.

41 ¶ Veto of Bill To Amend the Natural Gas Act.
February 17, 1956

To the House of Representatives:

I am unable to approve H. R. 6645 "To Amend the Natural Gas Act as Amended." This I regret because I am in accord with its basic objectives.

Since the passage of this Bill, a body of evidence has accumulated indicating that private persons, apparently representing only a very small segment of a great and vital industry, have been seeking to further their own interests by highly questionable activities. These include efforts that I deem to be so arrogant and so much in defiance of acceptable standards of propriety as to risk creating doubt among the American people concerning the integrity of governmental processes.

Legally constituted agencies of government are now engaged in investigating this situation. These investigations cannot be concluded before the expiration of the ten-day period within which the President must act upon the legislation under the Constitution.

I believe I would not be discharging my own duty were I to approve this legislation before the activities in question have been fully investigated by the Congress and the Department of Justice. To do so under such conditions could well create long-term apprehension in the minds of the American people. It would be a disservice both to the people and to their Congress. Accordingly, I return H. R. 6645 without my approval.

At the same time, I must make quite clear that legislation conforming to the basic objectives of H. R. 6645 is needed. It is needed because the type of regulation of producers of natural gas which is required under present law will discourage individual initiative and incentive to explore for and develop new sources of supply.

In the long run this will limit supplies of gas which is contrary

not only to the national interest but especially to the interest of consumers.

I feel that any new legislation, in addition to furthering the long-term interest of consumers in plentiful supplies of gas, should include specific language protecting consumers in their right to fair prices.

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

42 ¶ Statement by the President Expressing
Concern Over the Distress Caused by the Extreme
Winter Weather in Europe. *February 19, 1956*

I HAVE OBSERVED with growing concern the reports that have come from Western European countries regarding the suffering and damage that has been caused by one of the worst winters in that area—possibly the worst in the past two or three decades.

I want to extend my country's deepfelt and sincere concern for the suffering peoples in the afflicted areas.

The United States stands ready to make supplies of agricultural commodities which we have in abundance available for relieving the distress of the people in these areas. I have consulted with the Secretary of Agriculture, and while it is now too early to assess the damage realistically, both for the present and the immediate future, there is every indication that there will be need for such supplies. It has been reported, for example, that France alone has lost about one-third of her current wheat crop.

I know that the people of the United States will deem it a real privilege to put these agricultural commodities to the great service of relieving the suffering of our Western European neighbors. Such commodities can be made available for this purpose under authorities which already exist, pursuant to past actions taken by the Congress.

NOTE: This statement was released at Thomasville, Ga.

43 ¶ Statement by the President Announcing
Determination To Make Uranium Available for
Peaceful Uses. *February 22, 1956*

MANKIND'S HOPES and aspirations for peace and greater well-being are closely linked to the world's progress in developing the peaceful uses of atomic energy. The program to further this development has advanced steadily in the past two years.

I am announcing today further steps by the United States toward the production of peaceful power from the atom.

At the recommendation of Chairman Lewis L. Strauss of the United States Atomic Energy Commission, in which the Departments of State and Defense concur, I have determined, under Section 41b of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, that substantial quantities of the special nuclear material uranium 235 may now be designated for research and development purposes and for fueling nuclear power reactors at home and abroad. This material will be available for either sale or lease under conditions prescribed by the United States Government. The Commission's recommendations are based on extensive studies that have been in progress since enactment of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954.

The quantities of uranium 235 which will be made available for distribution over a period of years under this determination are:

a. In the United States, through lease for all licensed civilian purposes, principally for power reactors—20,000 kilograms.

b. Outside the United States, through sale or lease for peaceful purposes, principally power and research reactors—20,000 kilograms. This is in addition to the 200 kilograms already made available for research reactors abroad.

It is not intended that nations which are presently producing uranium 235, or the Soviet Union and its satellites, shall share in this distribution.

Distribution of special nuclear material will be subject to

prudent safeguards against diversion of the materials to non-peaceful purposes.

The quantities of uranium 235 to be made available as a result of this determination will permit us to carry out our responsibilities in the development of atomic energy for the common defense and security of the United States and for contributing to the peace and general welfare of the world.

Significant actions are under way to create an international agency and an integrated community for Western Europe to develop peaceful uses of atomic energy. The United States welcomes this progress and will cooperate with such agencies when they come into existence.

The special nuclear material to be made available will support the start of nuclear power programs with a generating capacity of several millions of electrical kilowatts. With this assurance, such programs may be undertaken in the next several years, in this country and abroad.

As additional projects are undertaken by our industry and by other nations, more nuclear fuel will be required. The Atomic Energy Commission has informed me that it will recommend that additional supplies be made available as become necessary in the future.

This action demonstrates the confidence of the United States in the possibilities of developing nuclear power for civilian uses. It is an earnest of our faith that the atom can be made a powerful instrument for the promotion of world peace.

NOTE: A statement by Lewis L. Strauss, Chairman, Atomic Energy Commission, concerning the President's action was also released. Both statements are printed in Appendix 8 to the 20th semiannual report of the Commission (Government Printing Office, 1956).

44 ¶ Statement by the President Upon Signing
Bill Authorizing Washita River Basin Reclamation
Project, Oklahoma. *February 25, 1956*

I HAVE TODAY APPROVED S. 180, "To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to construct, operate, and maintain the Washita River Basin reclamation project, Oklahoma."

This bill authorizes a water conservation and development project on the Washita River in Oklahoma. The physical features and general arrangement of the project have been approved by Federal agencies and State and local interests. S. 180, however, includes specific technical directions as to how the costs are to be allocated for the various purposes for which the project is to be built. Specifically, the non-reimbursable costs allocated to flood control would be computed by capitalizing the estimate of annual benefits for flood control over a period of 100 years. In this respect, the bill departs from the usual Congressional practice in such cases. It also departs from a fundamental principle of multiple-purpose projects, namely, that each purpose bear its own share of the costs and share equitably in the savings resulting from the incorporation of several purposes in a single project. To this extent, the bill could establish an undesirable precedent for similar handling of other projects without regard to the excess costs to the Federal Government which result from such a method of cost allocation. I shall not consider approval of this bill as such a precedent, but rather as a recognition of special circumstances and acceptance of the result of the extensive negotiations between the Federal agencies and local interests which were conducted in the development of the project.

In approving the measure, I wish once again to call attention to the water policy report which I transmitted to the Congress on January 17, 1956. A major contribution of that report is its statement of the sound principles on which costs of multiple-

purpose projects should be allocated. I believe that those principles are in the best, long-run interest of all the people.

NOTE: As enacted, S. 180 is Public Law 419, 84th Congress (70 Stat. 28).

45 ¶ Remarks on Receiving Statue Presented by President Gronchi on Behalf of the Italian People.

February 28, 1956

Mr. President:

I am particularly happy to act as the agent of the American people in receiving from your hands, on behalf of the Italian people, this replica of the art of antiquity, together with objects which you did not mention—the column and the beautiful capital on top of it that I see just outside the enclosure.

I assure you that all America will be extremely gratified by your action, not only because of their interest in ancient arts, and in modern art, but because of their understanding that this gift comes from the affection and the sense of relationship on the part of the Italian people to our own. As you know, we have many millions of citizens of Italian derivation. They will be, I think, extremely proud that you brought this gift to our people, and all the rest of us will take a tremendous satisfaction that it has been handed over in the hands of one who is a militant leader for democracy and human values in this world of today.

Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke in the Rose Garden at 11:40 a. m., following the presentation by President Giovanni Gronchi of a reproduction of the 2500-year-old statue, the Discus Thrower.

President Gronchi's remarks (through an interpreter) follow:

Mr. President:

It is an honor for me to present to you on behalf of the Italian people this statue which reproduces one of the most famous masterpieces of antiquity. This presentation has the purpose of expressing our gratitude to the people of the United States

for the restitution of the works of art which were removed from Italy during World War II.

This restitution has been made possible by the understanding and the interest of the United States and has been an accomplishment of inestimable significance for the restoration of the Italian artistic wealth to its integrity.

Probably not everybody is aware of the importance of such restitutions. They included the treasures of the National Museum of Naples, which contained the celebrated paintings of the Farnese collection and the superb collection of ancient gold works of Herculaneum and Pompei; the treasures of the Uffizi and Pitti's Galleries, of the Churches and Convents of Tuscany together with numerous privately owned works which still are, in Italy, a living part of its history since they belong still often to descendants of families which commissioned them directly from the great Masters of the Renaissance.

These works were returned to Italy, thanks to the efforts of men motivated by a sense of right as well

as by love of culture, who had been entrusted by the American government with the difficult and delicate task of such restitution and who, in the performance of their tasks, gave constant evidence both of their great love for Italy and of their deep respect for the most sacred principles of law and international life. Among those who exerted themselves the most in this task collaborating with the Chief of the Italian Restitution Mission, Rodolfo Siviero, I wish to mention General Lucius Clay, Mr. Robert Murphy and Mr. Richard Howard. The German Democratic government itself cooperated in a cordial and friendly spirit in that noble task.

Mr. President, in renewing to you an expression of the deep appreciation of the Italian people, I wish to add that I am particularly pleased at having been able to hand over this statue to you, for the American people, during my present journey in the United States which promises to bring a new reaffirmation of the strong ties and the deep friendship which unite our two nations.

46 ¶ Joint Statement Following Meeting With President Gronchi of Italy. *February 28, 1956*

THE PRESIDENT of the United States and the President of the Republic of Italy had a cordial and interesting exchange of views on various subjects. Particularly they discussed participation of

both countries in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. Both expressed their full and unqualified support of NATO and explored means of strengthening the solidarity of that organization and its members in the political, economic and psychological fields as well as in the military field.

The President of the Italian Republic emphasized again his firm support of European unification.

The President of the United States expressed his appreciation to the President of the Italian Republic for the Italian nation's unswerving devotion to the cause of liberty and individual freedom. The President also praised the important role Italy has always played as a charter member of NATO.

If further official meetings prove to be desirable, both Presidents agreed that they should be held.

47 ¶ The President's News Conference of *February 29, 1956.*

THE PRESIDENT. Sit down, please.

Ladies and gentlemen, I have several announcements this morning. The first one involves the yearly campaign for the Red Cross, and I think I could profitably use the whole half hour if I would try to express what I really believe about it.

Seventy-five years this organization has been serving America; in a way, it has been sort of the conscience of America, America doing here and abroad what we, as citizens, believe should be done, and acting as our agent in carrying out the relief and other kinds of duties that have done so much for humanity and have meant so much to us, because we felt that through this Red Cross we are enabled to discharge or to satisfy our real desire to be humans.

Last year was a very tough year for them. We had the big flood in New England. Mr. Roland Harriman, the President,

was on the job from the beginning, did a magnificent job, and had to have a special drive, you will recall, for funds. While they were still operating in that area, they had the big floods in the Northwest, just before Christmas.

Even today the Red Cross is helping some 11,000 American families to get through a period of great distress and emergency, so they can again begin to function as normal citizens.

I would like to have each of you exercise your best talents as eloquent supporters of the Red Cross, and put out the best appeals that you know to double the quotas they ask, and do it quickly, to show what we really think of this great organization that has served us so long in peace and war.

The next thing I would like to say is how gratified I am that President Gronchi and his wife have come over to visit this Nation so early in his administration.

It is evidence of his great concern in the Western alliance and in the organization of free nations.

It is the first time that the head of an Italian State has visited us, and I think that it should be especially gratifying to the many millions of our citizens of Italian extraction.

Certainly to me, both officially and personally, it is a source of gratification, and I am certain that wherever they go—they are going to be in the North American Continent about 2 weeks—I hope that wherever they go they will experience that same kind of warm welcome and gain the feeling that we really respect this great member of the Western alliance.

The next thing I want to mention are two bills that are before Congress now on which I have previously made many urgent recommendations.

One is the farm legislation. Now, as you know, I am unalterably opposed to rigid price supports but, with the Secretary of Agriculture, I have sent to the Congress a very broad program for assisting farmers to achieve their proper share of the national income, and to do it in such a way as to preserve their independence and avoid, to the utmost, unnecessary controls.

Now, there is one thing about that legislation: it is needed now. Farm income is *now* down.

This is not merely a matter of 10 years from now, although we have attempted to draw our program, that while it helps now it will be applicable over the long run and assist the farm community to regain its proper place in our economy. So what I urge is speedy positive action on that legislation.

The other item of legislation in which I am very deeply concerned, now up, is the Upper Colorado Basin.

I have more than once expressed my conviction before this body that I believe water is rapidly becoming our most valuable natural resource, and here's an opportunity, at last, to treat this whole, great, mighty Colorado River as a single entity, to treat it on a basin basis, instead of merely local and individual. We should get busy and get on to it.

There was one feature of it that was originally controversial because of the belief on the part of some conservationists we would destroy wildlife in one section of the area. That dam, Echo Park Dam, has been eliminated.

I think their fears were groundless, but it has been eliminated and removed that particular bone of contention. So again I hope that we can have positive action on that as rapidly as possible.

Now, my next announcement involves something more personal, but I think it will be of interest to you because you have asked me so many questions about it.

I have promised this body that when I reached a decision as to my own attitude toward my own personal future, I would let you know as soon as I reached such a decision.

Now, I have reached a decision. But I have found, as I did so, that there were so many factors and considerations involved, that I saw the answer could not be expressed just in the simple terms of yes and no. Some full explanation to the American people is not only necessary, but I would never consent to go before them unless I were assured that they did understand these things, these influences, these possibilities.

Moreover, I would not allow my name to go before the Republican Convention unless they, all the Republicans, understood, so that they would not be nominating some individual other than they thought they were nominating.

So, for both reasons, because I don't know for certain, that the Republican Convention, after hearing the entire story, wants me, I don't know whether the people want me, but I am—I will say this: I am asking, as quickly as this conference is over, for time on television and radio. I am going directly to the American people and tell them the full facts. And my answer within the limits I have so sketchily observed, but which I will explain in detail tonight so as to get the story out in one continuous narrative, my answer will be positive, that is, affirmative.

Now, because I do intend to give the details of this story tonight, I do not intend to have it as a subject for further conversation this morning, because I believe that is the only answer I promised this particular group, a yes or no, as far as I could give them.

Now, I am done with my announcements, and we will go to questions.

Q. Robert E. Clark, International News Service: Mr. President, since your answer is affirmative, would you again want Vice President Nixon as your running mate?

THE PRESIDENT. As a matter of fact, I wouldn't mention the Vice Presidency in spite of my tremendous admiration for Mr. Nixon, for this reason: I believe it is traditional that the Vice President is not nominated until after a presidential candidate is nominated; so I think that we will have to wait to see who the Republican Convention nominates, and then it will be proper to give an expression on that point.

Q. Charles S. von Fremd, CBS News: Mr. President, I just wonder if you could clarify that further; should you be nominated by the convention, would you like to have the Vice President?

THE PRESIDENT. I will say nothing more about it. I have said that my admiration and my respect for Vice President Nixon

is unbounded. He has been for me a loyal and dedicated associate, and a successful one.

I am very fond of him, but I am going to say no more about it.

Q. Merriman Smith, United Press: Mr. President, could you tell us, sir, when you arrived at a positive decision?

THE PRESIDENT. I will say this one thing: it probably will be in my message this evening, but I will say that I was arguing about it yesterday morning. [*Laughter*]

Q. Laurence H. Burd, Chicago Tribune: Mr. President, what time are you requesting to go on the air?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I can't tell you for sure, but Mr. Hagerty will put that out as quickly as he possibly can. But I would assume it would be somewhere in 9:30 to 10:30 area; that would be normal.

Q. John L. Steele, Time-Life: Mr. President, are you able to tell us within your embargo with whom you discussed this problem?

THE PRESIDENT. Everybody that I thought was my friend, and some that I wasn't so sure of. [*Laughter*]

Q. Charles W. Roberts, Newsweek: Sir, I wonder if you could tell us whether you are planning an active cross-country type of campaign or a more inactive type?

THE PRESIDENT. That is one of those things you will be perfectly assured of this evening.

Q. William Theis, International News Service: I just wanted to retrace one statement. You said, "My answer will be positive." Did you add the word "affirmative" after that?

THE PRESIDENT. And "affirmative." That's what I said. I said by that I mean "affirmative." I think that is what I said.

Q. Jack L. Bell, Associated Press: Mr. President, in view of your statement, would you consent to the entry of your name in primaries where consent of the candidate is necessary? That would involve almost immediate action in Wisconsin and California.

THE PRESIDENT. Well, Mr. Bell, I have been so busy with my

own decisions that this is one I haven't yet reached. Now, I would know of no reason for standing in the way. I did give a particular answer in New Hampshire, but apparently that now is not applicable to the case you speak of.

Q. Mr. Bell: No, this is where you would have to give consent.

THE PRESIDENT. I will give the answer later.

Q. Raymond P. Brandt, St. Louis Post-Dispatch: Mr. President, your announcement will undoubtedly take many people out of the race. Do you want competition in this for the nomination?

THE PRESIDENT. I have tried to make it just as clear as I can that any Republican that would like to do this job, I would like to see him put his case before the public just as earnestly as he knows how.

Q. Mr. Brandt: Will you campaign actively for the nomination?

THE PRESIDENT. I will tell you those things this evening.

Q. Sarah McClendon, El Paso Times: Would you tell us if you think that—have you heard whether your veto of the gas bill has helped or hurt your chances in some sections?

THE PRESIDENT. I haven't the slightest idea, but I will say this: as I said in my veto, there was what I believe to be a minor section of a great and vital industry I thought was guilty of arrogant and indefensible action.

Now, my great friends in the oil industry—and it is filled with them—have sent me telegrams, if not of complete satisfaction and applause, at least they have accepted it as an honest act. I am really proud of the way most of them, the great vast majority, have acted.

Q. Betty Beale, Washington Star: Mr. President, sir, would you care to say what Mrs. Eisenhower's reaction was to your decision?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I wouldn't say that right now, except this: Mrs. Eisenhower and other members of my family, at the beginning, have said, "This is your decision. We will conform."

Q. Edward P. Morgan, American Broadcasting Company:

Sir, no one has been franker than yourself in revealing the state of your health. How would you expect this issue to be handled in the campaign?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I hadn't given it any thought, but as for my part, I am going to try to be just as truthful as I can be. I believe this: I think even people who would classify themselves probably as my political enemies do believe I am honest. They may call me stupid, but I think they think I am honest. *[Laughter]*

Q. Walter Kerr, New York Herald Tribune: I wonder if you could tell us, sir, what you regard at the moment as being the major issues in this campaign?

THE PRESIDENT. No, I don't think I want to sort them out and now define them as issues.

What I am going to say is this: I have a record established before the American people; that is my campaign.

Q. William V. Shannon, New York Post: As you may know, four of the southern State legislatures have passed interposition resolutions stating that the Supreme Court decision outlawing segregation has no force and effect in their States; and I was wondering what you thought about this concept of interposition, and what you thought was the role of the Federal Government in enforcing the Supreme Court decision?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, of course, you have asked a very vast question that is filled with argument on both sides. You have raised the question of States rights versus Federal power; you have particularly brought up the question whether the Supreme Court is the last word we have in the interpretation of our Constitution.

Now, this is what I say: there are adequate legal means of determining all of these factors. The Supreme Court has issued its own operational directives and delegated power to the district courts.

I expect that we are going to make progress, and the Supreme Court itself said it does not expect revolutionary action suddenly

executed. We will make progress, and I am not going to attempt to tell them how it is going to be done.

Q. Merriman Smith, United Press: Mr. President, would you tell us in your own words or analyze for us what you think of your present state of health.

THE PRESIDENT. I will this evening.

Q. Mr. Smith: Well, can you give us a little bit this morning?

THE PRESIDENT. No, I think not. The trouble is, Mr. Smith, it opens up a variety of questions for doctors and myself and the rest of it, and I think I have got to have a little time to tell that story.

Q. Richard L. Wilson, Cowles Publications: Mr. President, do you consider the lack of Republican control of Congress to be a handicap to your administration? If you do, what action will you take to attempt to get a Republican Congress?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, the latter part of your question I am not going to answer now because it is going over into the field of the future.

This is what I believe: if we are honestly dedicated to a two-party system, that is, to a single party responsibility in this country, then the Legislature and the Executive should properly be in the same hands, so that there can be responsibility fixed without crimination and recrimination. So to that extent you may interpret it as you please, but this is not to deny that in many things which I wanted, I have had active and vital Democratic support in certain of the programs that I have advanced. But I do say if we are going to adhere to the two-party system as a fundamental part of our political doctrine, we should—certainly whenever it is humanly possible—have these groups under the control of the same party.

Q. Mr. Wilson: Do you believe, sir, that the existence of a Democratically-controlled Congress has prevented the adoption of any important part of your program?

THE PRESIDENT. I have never analyzed it in that way, Mr. Wilson. And I couldn't say that for sure, but I do say, as I just

admitted, that in many instances I have had definite Democratic approval.

Q. Charles T. Lucey, Scripps-Howard: What is your reaction, sir, to Mr. Nixon's characterization of Chief Justice Warren as a Republican Chief Justice?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I am not going to comment on his comment; I never do. But I will say this: once a man has passed into the Supreme Court, he is an American citizen and nothing else in my book until he comes out of that Court. I would never admit that he longer had a political designation.

Q. Charles E. Shutt, Telenews: Mr. President, not to press you about your health, sir, but as of right now, do you feel well enough to hit the campaign trail?

THE PRESIDENT. I will answer those things this evening.

Q. Peter Lisagor, Chicago Daily News: Can you tell us whether you consulted Vice President Nixon on your decision?

THE PRESIDENT. Oh, yes. I consulted Vice President Nixon all the time, and no later than, I think, yesterday afternoon.

Q. Edward W. O'Brien, St. Louis Globe-Democrat: Mr. President, if you are renominated, sir, are you quite hopeful of being re-elected?

THE PRESIDENT. Am I what?

Q. Mr. O'Brien: If you are renominated, are you quite hopeful of being elected?

THE PRESIDENT. This is in the hands of the American people. I say my campaign is the record.

Q. Edward T. Folliard, Washington Post and Times Herald: Mr. President, how many persons were in on your secret?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I think since last evening there have been probably half a dozen.

Q. Mr. Folliard: How about before that, Mr. President?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, there could have been no one because I didn't know myself. [*Laughter*]

Q. William S. White, New York Times: Mr. President, can

you tell us, sir, what the most decisive consideration was for you in the decision you have reached?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, that is very difficult, but I think that my talk this evening will probably indicate it quite clearly. When you come down to comparisons, I am not certain what influences a man most in this world.

Q. Hazel Markel, National Broadcasting Company: Mr. President, can you tell us had you made up your mind previous to your heart attack that you would run for a second term?

THE PRESIDENT. You know, Miss Markel, that is one secret I don't think I will ever tell anybody. [*Laughter*] Possibly in my papers that can be opened 25 years after I have passed on, why, it will be told.

Q. Kenneth M. Scheibel, Gannett News Service: Mr. President, this is another secret a lot of people would like to know: if the Congress passes the 90-percent supports and sends it to you, will you veto that bill in view of your opposition to it?

THE PRESIDENT. I give an answer that I must have given at least 15 times before this body. I never predict what I am going to do to a bill before it gets to me.

Q. Merriman Smith, United Press: Mr. President, may we have your permission to quote, prior to the release of the transcript, your phrase there, "My answer will be positive, that is, affirmative"?

THE PRESIDENT. Yes.

Q. Ray L. Scherer, National Broadcasting Company: Can we have it all, Mr. President, everything you said this morning?

THE PRESIDENT. No, not in quotes, because I may have been guilty of some very bad grammar. I think that if you will give Mr. Hagerty a chance to correct the mistakes, why, then, it will be all right.

Q. James B. Reston, New York Times: Mr. President, in the light of your decision, sir, will you press in this session of Congress for clarification of the Constitutional flaw about succession in the Presidency?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, as quickly, I think, as legislation could be drawn up that would convince us all that it did clarify and would satisfy the conflicting ideas on the thing, I would be for it right away, just as soon as possible. It has nothing to do, though, with me, and I assure you of this: my answer would not be affirmative unless I thought I could last out the 5 years.

Merriman Smith, United Press: Thank you, Mr. President.

NOTE: President Eisenhower's eighth news conference was held in the Executive Office Building from 10:31 to 10:52 o'clock on Wednesday morning, February 29, 1956. In attendance: 311.

48 ¶ Radio and Television Address to the American People Following Decision on a Second Term. *February 29, 1956*

[Delivered from the President's Office at 10:00 p. m.]

My Fellow Citizens:

I wanted to come into your homes this evening, because I feel the need of talking with you directly about a decision I made today, after weeks of the most careful and devoutly prayerful consideration. I made that decision public shortly after ten-thirty this morning. Immediately I returned to this office. Upon reaching here I sat down and began to put down on paper thoughts that occurred to me which I felt might be of some interest to you in connection with that decision. This is what I wrote. I have decided that if the Republican Party chooses to renominate me, I shall accept that nomination. Thereafter, if the people of this country should elect me, I shall continue to serve them in the office I now hold. I have concluded that I should permit the American people to have the opportunity to register their decision in this matter.

In reaching this conclusion I have, first of all, been guided by the favorable reports of the doctors. As many of you may know,

their reports are that my heart has not enlarged, that my pulse and blood pressure are normal, that my blood analysis is excellent, my weight satisfactory, and I have shown no signs of undue fatigue after periods of normal mental and physical activity.

In addition, I have consulted literally with multitudes of friends and associates, either personally or through correspondence. With their advice—once I had been assured of a favorable medical opinion—I have sought the path of personal responsibility, and of duty to the immense body of citizens who have supported me and this administration in what we have been jointly trying to do. In the last analysis, however, this decision was my own. Even the closest members of my family have declined to urge me to any specific course, merely saying that they would cheerfully abide by whatever I decided was best to do.

From the moment that any man is first elected President of the United States, there is continuous public interest in the question as to whether or not he will seek re-election. In most instances, Presidents in good health have sought, or at least have made themselves available for, a second term.

In my own case this question, which was undecided before my recent illness, has been complicated by the heart attack I suffered on September twenty-fourth last year. Aside from all other considerations, I have been faced with the fact that I am classed as a recovered heart patient. This means that to some undetermined extent, I may possibly be a greater risk than is the normal person of my age. My doctors assure me that this increased percentage of risk is not great.

So far as my own personal sense of well-being is concerned, I am as well as before the attack occurred. It is, however, true that the opinions and conclusions of the doctors that I can continue to carry the burdens of the Presidency, contemplate for me a regime of ordered work activity, interspersed with regular amounts of exercise, recreation and rest. A further word about this prescribed regime. I must keep my weight at a proper level. I must take a short mid-day breather. I must normally retire at

a reasonable hour, and I must eliminate many of the less important social and ceremonial activities.

But let me make one thing clear. As of this moment, there is not the slightest doubt that I can perform as well as I ever have, all of the important duties of the Presidency. This I say because I am actually doing so and have been doing so for many weeks.

Of course, the duties of the President are essentially endless. No daily schedule of appointments can give a full timetable—or even a faint indication—of the President's responsibilities. Entirely aside from the making of important decisions, the formulation of policy through the National Security Council, and the Cabinet, cooperation with the Congress and with the States, there is for the President a continuous burden of study, contemplation and reflection.

Of the subjects demanding this endless study, some deal with foreign affairs, with the position of the United States in the international world, her strength, her aspirations, and the methods by which she may exert her influence in the solution of world problems and in the direction of a just and enduring peace. These—all of them—are a particular Constitutional responsibility of the President.

These subjects that require this study and contemplation include, also, major questions affecting our economy, the relationships of our government to our people, the Federal government's proper role in assuring our citizens access to medical and educational facilities, and important economic and social policies in a variety of fields.

The President is the Constitutional Commander in Chief of our Armed Forces and is constantly confronted with major questions as to their efficiency, organization, operations and adequacy.

All these matters, among others, are with a President always; in Washington, in a summer White House, on a weekend absence, indeed, even at a ceremonial dinner and in every hour of leisure. The old saying is true, "A President never escapes from his office."

These are the things to which I refer when I say I am now carrying the duties of the President. So far as I am concerned, I am confident that I can continue to carry them indefinitely.

Otherwise, I would never have made the decision I announced today.

The doctors insist that hard work of the kind I have described does not injure any recovered coronary case, if such a recovered patient will follow the regime they lay down. Certainly, to this moment, the work has not hurt me.

Readiness to obey the doctors, out of respect for my present duties and responsibilities, is mandatory in my case. I am now doing so, and I intend to continue doing so for the remainder of my life, no matter in what capacity I may be living or may be serving.

Incidentally, some of my medical advisers believe that adverse effects on my health will be less in the Presidency than in any other position I might hold. They believe that because of the watchful care that doctors can and do exercise over a President, he normally runs less risk of physical difficulty than do other citizens. This fact is probably of more importance to my family than to the nation at large, but believing you may have some interest in the point, I wanted to inform you.

Now, with this background of fact, and medical opinion and belief, what do these circumstances imply in terms of restrictions upon the activities in which I have been accustomed to participate in the past?

During the first two and a half years of my incumbency, I felt that a great effort was needed in America to clarify our own thinking with respect to problems of international peace and our nation's security; the proper relationships of the Federal government with the States; the relationship of the Federal government to our economy and to individual citizens; increased cooperation of the Executive Branch with the Congress; problems of the nation's farmers; the need for highways; the building of schools; the extension of social welfare; and a myriad of other items of

similar importance. To this public clarification of issues I devoted much time and effort. In many cases these things can now be done equally well by my close associates, but in others I shall continue to perform these important tasks.

Some of the things in which I can properly have a reduced schedule include public speeches, office appointments with individuals and with groups, ceremonial dinners, receptions, and portions of a very heavy correspondence.

Likewise I have done a great deal of travelling, much of which was undertaken in the effort to keep in personal touch with the thinking of you, the people of America. Both in war and in peace, it has been my conviction that no man can isolate himself from the men and women he is attempting to serve, and really sense what is in their hearts and minds. This kind of activity I shall continue, but not on such an intensive basis that I must violate the restrictions within which I must work.

All of this means, also, that neither for renomination nor re-election would I engage in extensive travelling and in whistle-stop speaking—normally referred to as “barn-storming.” I had long ago made up my mind, before I ever dreamed of a personal heart attack, that I could never, as President of all the people, conduct the kind of political campaign where I was personally a candidate. The first duty of a President is to discharge to the limit of his ability, the responsibilities of his office.

On the record are the aims, the efforts, the accomplishments and the plans for the future of this Administration. Those facts constitute my personal platform.

I put all these things clearly before you for two reasons.

The first is that every delegate attending the Republican convention next August is entitled to know now that, for all the reasons I have given, I shall, in general, wage no political campaign in the customary pattern. Instead, my principle purpose, if renominated, will be to inform the American people accurately, through means of mass communication, of the foreign and domestic program this Administration has designed and has

pressed for the benefit of all our people; to show them how much of that program has been accomplished or enacted into law; to point out what remains to be done, and to show how we intend to do it.

If the Republican delegates come to believe that they should have as their Presidential nominee one who would campaign more actively, they would have the perfect right—indeed the duty—to name such a nominee. I, for one, would accept their decision cheerfully and I would continue by all means within my power to help advance the interests of the American people through the kind of program that this Administration has persistently supported.

The second reason for placing these things before you is because I am determined that every American shall have all available facts concerning my personal condition and the way I am now conducting the affairs of this office. Thus, when they go to the polls next November to elect a President of the United States, they can, should I again be one of the nominees, do so with a full understanding of both the record of this Administration and of how I propose to conduct myself now and in the future.

I know of little that I can add to this statement. As I hope all of you know, I am dedicated to a program that rigidly respects the concepts of political and economic freedom on which this nation was founded, that holds that there must be equal justice and equality of opportunity for individuals, that adapts governmental methods to changing industrial, economic and social conditions, and that has, as its never changing purpose, the welfare, prosperity, and above all, the security of 166 million Americans.

The work that I set out four years ago to do has not yet reached the state of development and fruition that I then hoped could be accomplished within the period of a single term in this office. So if the American people choose, under the circumstances I have described, to place this duty upon me, I shall persist in the way that has been charted by my associates and myself.

I shall continue, with earnestness, sincerity and enthusiasm, to discharge the duties of this office.

Now my friends, I have earnestly attempted to give you the most important facts and considerations which I took into account in reaching the decision I announced today. If I have omitted anything significant, it is something I shall strive to correct in the weeks ahead.

Thank you very much for permitting me to visit with you this evening on this very important matter. Good night to all of you.

49 ¶ Joint Statement Following Second Meeting With President Gronchi of Italy. *March 1, 1956*

THE PRESIDENT of the United States and the President of the Italian Republic met again today to complete their discussion of problems of mutual interest. They reaffirmed their intention to direct their action toward the preservation of peace, freedom and democracy. They reaffirmed that, while all possible efforts will continue to be made to achieve a reduction of armaments, the present situation does not allow any relaxation of the Western defense efforts. Concurrently, the President of the United States and the President of the Italian Republic agreed on the necessity of further deepening and extending the solidarity among the members of the North Atlantic Community through increased cooperation among them in all fields.

The two recognized that to the extent that it is possible to improve the Western world economy and to facilitate the development of the less advanced economies within it, the Atlantic Community and indeed the entire free world will benefit. In particular, as far as Italy is concerned, they agreed that Italy no longer needs grant economic aid. The area that President Eisenhower and President Gronchi agreed should be increasingly explored within the framework of established Western economic

cooperation, is the possibility that, in addition to her own efforts, Italy could meet some of her problems by the extension of sound public and private, long-term foreign investments. The problem facing Italy, it was agreed, is the improvement of the conditions which are necessary to her industrial development, particularly in the south, and further to attract private, national and foreign investments.

50 ¶ Remarks at Fourth Annual Republican Women's National Conference. *March 6, 1956*

Bertha, and Ladies:

For the past couple of years Miss Adkins fell into the habit of asking me to early morning breakfasts at which she had gathered as the other guests a group of Republican ladies. Now this morning she didn't give me a breakfast but she asked me to a much bigger party. And I came for the same purpose, to meet as nearly personally as it is possible for me to do, the women of this Party who make it their special business to help inform the nation of what the Republican Party is, what it is trying to do, and how it is trying to do it.

It is always, for me, a special privilege to address the women of this Party. First of all, for a very practical reason, they tell me there are more women in the United States than there are men. But secondly, I have the most deep conviction that a political party can be called such only if its whole purposes are soundly based in some moral and spiritual values.

The women of this nation are more concerned in their day by day work, I think, than are men with these values. They have the job of rearing our young, those youngsters who are so dear to all our hearts, and they want them to grow up with the right kind of values imbedded in them so that as they meet the problems of life they will always have a certain kind of principle, or

doctrine, or belief to fall back on that will help guide them through the rough spots.

I think the women, therefore, must be concerned with these values, and I return to my statement that if a political party does not have its foundation in the determination to advance a cause that is right and that is moral, then it is not a political party; it is merely a conspiracy to seize power.

Now you people—most of you—have heard me say these things before. I repeat them only because I believe them so deeply. And I know that you do. With some of you here I have had long and intimate conversations, and so you can know the great feeling of compliment that I have in being able to come over this morning to do my part in bidding you welcome to our Capital where you are undergoing your present labors, to wish you all the luck in the world in the months to come, and express the confidence that through you America will be informed of what the Republican program means for them and for the world, how far it has gone, what there is left to do, and how we are going to do it; and you will help—in your several districts and all the rest of the places—select the leaders under whom we are going to work.

It is a very great pleasure to be here. Moreover, it is an inspiring thing to know that each of you, from far-off stations—and I understand there are six people here from Alaska—have spent your own money to come in, better to equip yourselves to carry on this great work for America—for all America—in the months to come and in the years to come.

Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at the Statler Hotel, Washington, D. C., at 10:30 a. m. In his opening remarks the President referred to Bertha Adkins, Assistant to the Chairman of the Republican National Committee.

51 ¶ Letter to Harry H. Semmes, Co-Chairman,
National Security Committee, Concerning Military
Reserve Week. *March 6, 1956*

[Released March 6, 1956. Dated March 3, 1956]

Dear General Semmes:

I am impressed and deeply gratified by your and Mr. Wilson's letter informing me of the National Security Committee's sponsorship of Military Reserve Week, April 22-28, 1956. This action by your Committee and its many worthy constituent organizations is a splendid demonstration of responsible citizenship. Your leadership in undertaking to educate the American people regarding the new Six-Month Reserve Training Program will be welcomed by all of us.

I have always believed that no public program, whether or not it is enacted into law, can fully succeed unless the American people understand and support it. As you so truly say, the responsibility for preserving our security and freedoms rests not alone with the Department of Defense or indeed the Government as a whole, but also with all American citizens. An all-out effort to strengthen our security through the building of a strong reserve must come from the hearts of the people. The action of the National Security Committee and its constituent organizations demonstrates to me that the people have their hearts in this program.

I am, therefore, delighted to learn of your sponsorship of Military Reserve Week, and its objectives.

I assure you that all elements of the Government will give full support to the educational effort to be waged during Military Reserve Week. I am hopeful that all elements in American life, whether they be labor, business, scientific, or educational, will see the advantages of this new Six-Month Reserve Training Program both to the young men of our nation and to the national security. If all of us work together to point out to the seventeen to eighteen-

and-a-half year old age group the opportunities offered to them in this Program, I am sure that it will succeed.

Once again I commend the National Security Committee and its many constituent organizations for undertaking this great project.

With warm regard,

Sincerely,

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

NOTE: The National Security Committee, a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization established in 1947, includes in its membership representatives of national veterans, civic, and fraternal organizations. Its activities include educational campaigns and

programs for strengthening the military reserve.

The text of the letter from General Semmes and John H. Wilson, Co-Chairmen of the Committee, was not included in the release.

52 ¶ Letter to Nikolai Bulganin, Chairman,
Council of Ministers, U. S. S. R., on Geneva
Disarmament Proposal. *March 6, 1956*

[Released March 6, 1956. Dated March 1, 1956]

Dear Mr. Chairman:

In accordance with my message to you of October eleventh, I have now thoroughly reviewed your letter of September nineteenth, regarding the objective of an acceptable system of disarmament which we discussed at Geneva.

I have noted with satisfaction that you have expressed agreement with the importance of providing mutual safeguards against surprise attack and with the desirability of reciprocal reductions in armaments. You have credited me with a sincere desire to find a way to settle the important problem of international control and inspection.

It would appear, however, that you raise the following questions with regard to my Geneva proposal. You ask whether the adoption of my offer would lead to the reduction of armaments, and express doubt. You suggest the need of extending the inspection to other countries. You raise other points regarding nuclear weapons.

I am confident that the adoption of my Geneva proposal combined with ground inspection teams which you proposed, thus reducing the danger of surprise attack, will in fact lead to a reduction of armaments, the lessening of tensions, and the brightening of the prospects of a durable peace. Certainly the United States is fully resolved to achieve those ends. My representative on the Subcommittee of the United Nations Disarmament Commission will be prepared to help develop a program to carry out that resolve, through appropriate action by our Governments.

In my judgment, our efforts must be directed especially to bringing under control the nuclear threat. As an important step for this purpose and assuming the satisfactory operation of our air and ground inspection system, the United States would be prepared to work out, with other nations, suitable and safeguarded arrangements so that future production of fissionable materials anywhere in the world would no longer be used to increase the stockpiles of explosive weapons. With this could be combined my proposal of December 8, 1953, "to begin now and continue to make joint contributions" from existing stockpiles of normal uranium and fissionable materials to an international atomic agency. These measures, if carried out adequately, would reverse the present trend toward a constant increase in nuclear weapons overhanging the world. My ultimate hope is that all production of fissionable materials anywhere in the world will be devoted exclusively to peaceful purposes.

I am mindful of the difficulties in this regard, pointed out in your Government's proposals of May 10, 1955, arising from the possibilities for evading international control and organizing the clandestine manufacture of atomic and hydrogen weapons. The

risks inherent in failing to achieve control, however, make it imperative to overcome the difficulties involved and to devise and implement an effective system of safeguards. With genuine efforts on both sides, I feel confident we can succeed in this endeavor.

In general, my feeling is that disarmament should be sought primarily, though not exclusively, in terms of limitations on armaments rather than on men. The former are more subject to supervision, regulation and control than the latter. In the present state of international affairs and especially in the absence of real peace in the Far East, I foresee that it may be difficult to agree on reductions in the general level of armed forces at this time. It should, however, be possible now to agree on measures having a stabilizing effect, dealing with the control and limitation, under proper safeguards, of major types of armaments. These measures will be an essential part of the comprehensive system required to provide security to participating states.

If the United States and U. S. S. R. and our associates on the Subcommittee—the United Kingdom, France and Canada—can reach a basic agreement, I am confident that other nations would want to join in what they would regard as a favorable development for world peace. With the agreement of other nations concerned, the United States would expect the agreed system of supervision to apply, in an appropriate and effective manner, to forces and facilities which we both have outside our borders.

During the early phases of such a program, both the U. S. S. R. and the United States would have very extensive military strength, including stocks of nuclear weapons. I wish to make it clear that, so far as the United States is concerned, we would continue to hold such strength, not for aggression, nor for narrow national purposes, but as a contribution toward world stability in this transitional period.

I welcome the indication that you are giving major attention to this subject which has such extraordinary significance to the

peoples of our two countries and of the other nations of the world. May I assure you and the people of your country that the objective of the United States continues to be the attainment of a just and durable peace.

I hope that the coming meeting of the Disarmament Subcommittee will succeed in making real progress toward that goal.

I also wish to take this opportunity to acknowledge receipt of your letter of February first which replied to mine of January twenty-eighth. My view remains generally as expressed in that letter. But I shall continue to study the problem with a view to seeing whether it seems that any useful new steps can be taken as between us. I may communicate again with you later on this matter.

Sincerely,

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

NOTE: The President's words "my proposal of December 8, 1953" refer to an address made by him before the United Nations General Assembly on "Atomic Power for Peace." The address is printed in the Department of State Bulletin (vol. 29, p. 847). Other documents referred to are printed in the Department of

State Bulletin as follows: the President's message of October 11, 1955, and Mr. Bulganin's letter of September 19, 1955 (vol. 33, p. 643); Soviet proposals of May 10, 1955 (vol. 32, p. 900); Mr. Bulganin's letter of February 1, 1956 (vol. 34, p. 193). For text of the President's letter of January 28, 1956, see Item 23, above.

53 ¶ The President's News Conference of *March 7, 1956.*

THE PRESIDENT. Please be seated.

I was disappointed, ladies and gentlemen, that my announcements last week on the Red Cross and farm bill didn't get the space in the newspapers that I had hoped. [*Laughter*] But I did note that during the week, the Senate acted favorably on the

Colorado River project, so maybe some of you did some underground work for me; if so, thank you very much.

We will go to questions.

Q. Marvin L. Arrowsmith, Associated Press: Mr. President, there have been some published reports that some of your advisers are urging you to dump Vice President Nixon from the Republican ticket this year; and, secondly, that you yourself have suggested to Mr. Nixon that he consider standing aside this time and, perhaps, take a Cabinet post. Can you tell us whether there is anything to those reports?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, now, as to the first one, I will promise you this much: if anyone ever has the effrontery to come in and urge me to dump somebody that I respect as I do Vice President Nixon, there will be more commotion around my office than you have noticed yet.

Second, I have not presumed to tell the Vice President what he should do with his own future.

I have told him this: I believe he should be one of the comers in the Republican Party. He is young, vigorous, healthy, and certainly deeply informed on the processes of our Government. And so far as I know, he is deeply dedicated to the same principles of government that I am.

The only thing I have asked him to do is to chart out his own course, and tell me what he would like to do. I have never gone beyond that.

Q. Charles S. von Fremd, CBS News: Mr. President, it is apparent now, sir, that one of the prime issues the Democrats will make in this campaign if you do stand for re-election will be the state of your health. Would you comment on that, sir?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I have said already that I have tried to be as honest as I can in this regard. I think the people have a right to know about health.

If you will look back over the records of the Presidents that have had physical difficulty in office, I think there are four that

have died in office in the last fifty years or so, including one that was, of course, shot.

So, I think, it is their business, and I think I have done pretty well—at least my doctors have—in keeping them informed as to how I am, and I expect to do the same.

Q. Mr. von Fremd: May I continue, sir? That brings up a corollary point though which was one of the reasons I asked the question, sir: some of the leading Democrats have charged that if you were renominated and re-elected that, in effect, the people would be voting for a part-time Presidency, that was one of the points I was trying to reach, sir.

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I am not going to defend myself against charges; there are too many made, and I would be too busy. But I will say this: I carefully differentiated the other evening in a little talk between the proper, necessary, and constitutional duties of the President and many other things he does.

Now, I will certainly be less of a host in the coming years should I be re-elected, but there is going to be no neglect of the duties of the Presidency of the United States. When I feel I can't carry them on, I won't be there.

Q. Roscoe Drummond, New York Herald Tribune: Mr. President, would you state to us your position on the new version of the Bricker amendment that has now been voted out of committee?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I have made my position clear here numbers of times about the Bricker amendment, and I don't think it is necessary at all to reiterate.

I have always said that if the United States would be reassured by an amendment which stated that any treaty or international agreement that was not in consonance with the Constitution of the United States shall be null and void—if they wanted such an amendment, I would never stand in the way. I am not going to comment on the language of the present amendment.

Q. Frank van der Linden, Richmond (Va.) Times-Dispatch: Mr. President, do you feel confident that you will carry the same

southern States, including Tennessee and Virginia, that you carried in 1952 or possibly carry more this year?

THE PRESIDENT. I am not going to guess; I am not a prophet.

Q. Edward J. Milne, *Providence Journal-Bulletin*: Mr. President, when you say you have suggested to Mr. Nixon that he chart out his course, is the implication of that that if he elects to remain on the ticket you are content to have him as your running mate?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I am not going to be pushed into corners here and say right now, at this moment, what I would do in a hypothetical question that involves about five ifs. I don't think you should expect me to.

I do say this: I have no criticism of Vice President Nixon to make, either as a man, an associate, or as my running mate on the ticket.

Q. William V. Shannon, *New York Post*: Mr. President, in view of Communist arms shipments to the Middle Eastern countries, and in view of recent disclosures that the United States has been shipping arms to Saudi Arabia, would you explain why this country refuses to sell arms to Israel?

THE PRESIDENT. What was that last? In view of what, did you say?

Q. Mr. Shannon: I say in view of recent disclosures that the American Government has been selling arms to Saudi Arabia.

THE PRESIDENT. Oh! Well, now, let's take that with a little bit of a grain of salt.

Back in June or July of '55, it was agreed that a few light tanks and some auxiliary types of equipment could go to Saudi Arabia; and the only thing that was sent out there was material that had already been bought and paid for, and export licenses issued a long time ago. As a matter of fact, I think, I am not sure, but I think there are some of these export licenses that are still existing, although whether the material has been paid for, I am not sure.

Now, the great thing the United States is trying to avoid is the initiation of an arms race in that region. Because of that, we

have constantly restated our position that we believe that the United Nations should take urgent and early action on this matter, that both sides in the controversy should agree to abide by the United Nations advice and armistice terms and avoid initiating incidents so we could get peace started.

We do not believe that it is possible to assure peace in that area merely by rushing some arms to a nation that, at the most, can absorb only that amount that 1,700,000 people can absorb; whereas, on the other side, there are some 40 million people.

There is one other point: you will recall that when Mr. Eden was here, so concerned were we about this point in doing this thing peacefully, throwing our full weight behind it, that we reiterated our adherence to the tripartite announcement of May 1950.

Q. Merriman Smith, United Press: Mr. President, since Premier Bulganin's first reaction to your most recent letter to him appears to be favorable, do you think there would be any benefit from your inviting him to visit this country?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, at this moment, Mr. Smith, I must confess I hadn't thought about that as an immediate development. The letter was received a little bit differently than normally. Immediately upon receipt it was published fully, I understand, in Russia, both in newspapers and over the radio; and the comments of Mr. Bulganin were very favorable.

Now, I would say merely this: we shall be alert to follow up any opening that looks like it would lead to a lessening of the tensions in the United States.

Q. Mrs. May Craig, Portland (Maine) Press Herald: Mr. President, Premier Bulganin also said in relation to a possible visit here, that he could not come as long as Russian citizens are fingerprinted. Now, is it not true that no diplomat and no official visitor is ever fingerprinted in this country?

THE PRESIDENT. I think that is the law; and moreover, I believe that there is a considerable latitude in the hands of the

Attorney General and the Secretary of State for omitting this requirement on certain other people.

Q. Laurence H. Burd, Chicago Tribune: You said last week in your speech that you didn't plan any barnstorming campaign. Some Republican leaders have suggested that you may make some personal appearances, apart from radio and television. Would you plan some appearances, say, in the Farm Belt, in the big cities, or what are your campaign plans?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, the truth of it is I haven't any other than I announced the other evening.

Long before I ever took ill, I had made it very clear to certain Republican leaders that should they want me as their nominee again, that I was not going, as President, to carry on the kind of campaign I did in '52. I simply refused to do that.

Now, actually I made an appearance yesterday morning. When I heard there were 1500 Republican women here, I wanted to see them, and went over to see them. That causes no drain on me. It was between appointments. I was out of my office, I think, 21 minutes. And when you can do that and go and greet people, of course, it's political in its character, but it is not only proper but it is easy.

Now, how much I can do beyond, as I said, making certain explanations to the American people by means of mass communication, I have not put the exact limit on it at all.

Q. Carleton Kent, Chicago Sun-Times: Mr. President, this may violate your embargo on hypothetical questions. But suppose you found out before convention time that your physical condition was below the par that you expected? Could you say what you would do under that circumstance?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I think—are you asking me whether I have meant what I have said in the past?

Q. Mr. Kent: No, sir.

THE PRESIDENT. I have said, unless I felt absolutely up to the performance of the duties of the President, the second that I

didn't, I would no longer be there in the job or I wouldn't be available for the job.

That would be absolutely a result of the kind of statement I have made to the American people. I have promised them that, as a matter of fact.

Q. James B. Reston, *New York Times*: Mr. President, would you give us the benefit of your thinking, sir, about the trend of world events since the new theme that has been developed in the Soviet Union; and whether you think this forces us in any way to re-evaluate our own policy?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, this is what I think it does, Mr. Reston: I think that it forces us to take one part of the policies that we have been pursuing, and strengthen them.

I don't believe any American would want us to be weaker in the military side—in the side of national security and the security of our allies.

But when we take the economic side, which we had in many instances gone into so that our allies could support military establishments that we wanted them to have, and in other cases just to keep them from practical helplessness, I think we have got to study this more deeply, analyze it more deeply. In fact, seeing this, as it first started some months back, was one reason that I asked for more flexibility and some more aid this year.

I believe, with some flexibility in economic aid, we could do much more. But that is only a start.

I really believe the United States as a whole, and specifically its Congress and its executive departments, must study this matter very, very carefully, so that we don't get into a position of just responding to specious promises of the other side, and throwing our substance all over the world, but at the same time have a logical solidly followed program that our friends can believe in.

Now, I think it is very serious, very serious, because there is possibly a recognition that if you pursue force to its ultimate, then you establish no limits on what you will do and, therefore, there

is a type of thing that could eventuate that would be world tragedy of the kind we have never yet witnessed.

If that is true, then the attacker, the aggressive side, looks for new methods. You have got to have a campaign that is equally good there, and I think we must improve it.

Q. Mr. Reston: May I presume to ask one other question on that?

THE PRESIDENT. Yes.

Q. Mr. Reston: Did you get any indication in Geneva, in your conversations with Mr. Khrushchev and Mr. Bulganin, of this new offensive that they are now pursuing in the Middle East?

THE PRESIDENT. Yes. I talked to them about one or two moves that they were making, and they said words to this effect, "Purely commercial, purely commercial." So you knew that there was something new, but you couldn't tell how it was going to unfold, how big it was going to be, but, I mean, the hint was there, all right.

Q. Sarah McClendon, El Paso Times: Mr. President, Mr. Wilson said yesterday that we did not have as much intelligence about Russia as we hoped to have or should have, and other people have indicated this. I wonder if you think that a watchdog committee in Congress, of experienced men, responsible to the public from year to year, looking at the activities and expenditures of CIA would be better than a commission that would come in and give a spot check for just a few months?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, this is what I think: intelligence is a military matter, largely. Now, of course, you need intelligence also in the economic field, but it is all wrapped up in the matter of national security.

I think that the established military committees are fully competent to take care of this matter; in fact, I think they have taken care of this matter.

So I personally, while it is not up to me to tell Congress how it shall organize itself, I personally believe that the system we have now is working well.

Q. Paul Scott Rankine, Reuters: Would you comment for us, sir, on the significance for the Western powers generally of recent developments in Jordan and, in particular, the dismissal of Lieutenant General John Bagot Glubb?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, anyone that would minimize the possible results to flow from such a thing would be certainly more complacent than he should be in a position of responsibility. However, this is a matter that I don't believe can be bettered or improved by any general discussion of it at the moment.

I will say only this: both America and Britain, so far as I know, are pursuing the policy of trying to promote understanding and friendship among, you might say, the potential enemies in the Mid-East, in the belief only in that way can we bring about a situation that is not going to be a permanent source of irritation to the whole world, and really a possible powder keg.

So, therefore, we try to be friends to both sides as, indeed, does Britain, in the hope that by doing that we can promote real understanding and friendship between them.

Now, when you come down to the example of Jordan, it is a matter that I would rather hear discussed from London than from here.

Q. Ray L. Scherer, National Broadcasting Company: Mr. President, in connection with your new letter to Mr. Bulganin, could you indicate if your proposal to halt production of fissionable materials for war is based on a recognition that it is easier to control future production than to inspect existing stockpiles?

THE PRESIDENT. Oh, that is right.

Of course, you cannot control this particular type of production completely; but knowing the methods used in any plant, if you had what you call external inspection only, you know the amount of material that goes in, you know the amount of material that comes out and is donated or given to peaceful uses; it doesn't take any great amount of mathematical ability to determine how much there is missing or used somewhere else.

So I think that the proposal for the future is the recognition of the fact that there is not much that inspection can do about that already produced.

Q. Merriman Smith, United Press: At any time while you were in Thomasville, did Vice President Nixon meet with you there?

THE PRESIDENT. No. No, he didn't meet with me.

Q. Robert E. Clark, International News Service: Mr. President, in answering the last question about your health, you seemed to be saying if at any time you feel that your health is not up to carrying the burden of the Presidency, you will withdraw from the race; is that correct?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, now, don't hold me down if I get a week's case of the flu or something else. You people get down to the point that you are worse than the doctors in quizzing me. [Laughter]

I am talking about my general, let's say, organic fitness for the job, as I see it, and that means carrying a burden of hard work right on through the year and through the months. Now, any time that I believe that has failed to the point of inability to perform the job properly, then that goes before the American people instantly.

Q. William H. Lawrence, New York Times: Mr. President, could you tell us, sir, any of the specific purposes for which you are meeting with the Mexican President and the Canadian Premier at White Sulphur?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, one of the things is in recognition of the fact that the North American Continent is a continent that is bound together by geography; you can't get away from it and therefore we have common problems.

So far as we have common aspirations, common policies, international policies in the world, we have particular relationships with our two big neighbors. So we just want to meet for a chat—talk—with these two people.

You will recall that we meet one evening, we are there all

through the next day, and the following day we leave. It is not one of these long international conferences.

Q. Francis M. Stephenson, New York Daily News: I would like to ask what purpose is in mind in the Joint Chiefs of Staff meeting in Puerto Rico now?

THE PRESIDENT. You people have often heard me say the one thing that is hard to find in Washington is time to think. I am constantly after the Chiefs of Staff, as a corporate body, to get together and study the security affairs of the United States, to judge as to adequacy, the efficiency, economy, and everything else.

Consequently, here, in order to insure that they had at least an uninterrupted week or 8 or 9 days, whatever it is, of time to think, I told them to go off some place, and they chose Ramey Field.

Q. Joseph R. Slevin, New York Herald Tribune: I would like to ask you about two aspects of East-West trade controls. Do you believe in retrospect that the August 1954 relaxation of controls on trade with the European Soviet bloc was desirable; and do you now believe that there should be a relaxation of controls on trade with Communist China?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, to answer the first question, no, I don't believe it was a mistake.

You must remember that we had gone from a war production for Korea to the point where nations had some excess capacity for other purposes; and the traditional trading areas in Europe, of course, were East-West, the East providing the raw material, the West providing the services and the manufacturing facilities. That is a general statement, but that was largely true.

Now, those were interrupted. We had friends in the world we wanted to make a living. We didn't want forever to have to just dole out of our pockets and carry them by the means of grants. They could not develop with us the sufficient amount of trade because we are ourselves a nation that produces surpluses.

There had to be some relaxation. The great problem is where does trade give the other fellow no advantage that you don't get?

Normally, in times of peace, this is down purely to an economic

basis, an industrial basis, and nothing else. If a man wants to make a trade, he does it on the basis of whether he thinks he is going to make a profit. But now in this tortured time, politics, that is international politics, enters into the thing, and you ought to make certain that you are not damaged in the trade to the extent, in other words, that the other fellow gets a net advantage over you from the security angle and the political angle.

Now, regarding do I think there should be further relaxation, or anything of that kind, this is what I say: this is the kind of matter that has got to be studied every day. That is the reason we keep the control of COCOM and people like that, to see that we are not just getting rigidly fixed behind any one position with respect to any one item. The items change, I should think, from time to time.

Q. Charles E. Shutt, Telenews: Two questions, if you please, Mr. President: From time to time you have given us the benefit of your thinking about how world conditions are as relative to peace or the possibilities of war. Could you give us those, please?

And the second question, knowing your belief and your strong feeling for harnessing the atom for peace, should these talks and this correspondence with the Soviet Premier progress to the point, do you believe that a personal meeting with him would be beneficial?

THE PRESIDENT. I think that you people are going to have to decide among yourselves just how many questions one person gets, particularly when both of them are questions that you could talk a half hour on.

Now, the first one—what was the specific question, the first one?

Q. Mr. Shutt: What you thought about conditions of peace today, sir?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, actually, it is difficult to give any specific evaluation, even any specific opinion, about such a matter.

I do believe this: I believe the world has awakened to the fact that global war is getting well-nigh unthinkable, a word that has

been abused often in the past; but I believe they are just getting to that point, which means that this uneasy peace which has been often called the cold war, is going to take, I believe, a different direction. We are not going to limit or eliminate those features that were brought out under the possibility there might be war. But there is going to be a broadening, a very great broadening, of the contest as I tried to explain, I believe, to another question.

Now, that, at least, doesn't carry always the inherent threat of major war, and that would be that much gain.

But, at the same time, as we see in various parts of the world, there is always this threat of some new breakout, which can be very dangerous and can be the powder keg variety.

But I would say we are in a very great campaign, that we have put out some of our resources, we are continuing to fight along lines that we believe are based on decent, moral, ethical values, and that we have got to be alert to every threat to us, to counter it more by positive measures that people throughout the world will trust than just by trying to answer specific thrusts.

Well, I didn't entirely answer the second one, but go ahead.
[*Laughter*]

Q. Anthony H. Leviero, New York Times: There has been considerable criticism lately on our rate of progress in guided missiles. But Secretary Wilson said yesterday that in the whole scheme of things too much emphasis was being placed on this one weapon. Have you any observation to make on that?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I think if you say emphasis merely by the amount of talk that sometimes occurs about some of these things, why, his statement is absolutely correct.

Here is one possible means of delivery of a very terrible weapon; but already we know that there is possessed in the world the means of delivery that could make the world a very unhappy place in which to live. So this is another means; but it does have a very great psychological value.

I think we feel there is always a deterrent that is exercised when we know that a weapon can be delivered only with human

beings in it. When you can hurl a weapon a long way without a human being in it, that, at least in our kind of civilization, is a terrible thing and, therefore, it has a tremendous psychological value and it has material value as it comes closer to perfection.

But let us remember this: it must not come close to perfection merely in the distance one can be thrown, it must come closer to perfection in your ability to guide it, to keep it right square on target, to make it safe to use, and then to produce it in the great numbers that are needed—and they are very intricate weapons. So I say you have got a very great scheme of things with an array of weapons; and in the whole, as you say, larger scheme of things, I think there has been more talk than this one item would warrant.

Merriman Smith, United Press: Thank you, Mr. President.

NOTE: President Eisenhower's eighty-first news conference was held in the Executive Office Building from 10:32 to 11:03 o'clock on Wednesday morning, March 7, 1956. In attendance: 210.

54 ¶ Letter to Douglas McKay, Secretary of the Interior, Following His Decision To Campaign for Election to the Senate. *March 9, 1956*

[Released March 9, 1956. Dated March 8, 1956]

Dear Doug:

Your decision to campaign for election to the United States Senate from your beloved State of Oregon is worthy of the highest commendation.

As a personal matter, of course, I have mingled emotions. You have been a tremendous asset to us in the Cabinet and you will be missed. At the same time, it is easy to understand your desire to be of maximum personal service to your home State.

As a member of the United States Senate, you will add a great

deal to the working strength we need and must have in order to carry out the objectives of this Administration. The vast experience you have gained in private life, as a veteran State Legislator, Governor, and able administrator of the vital affairs of the Department of the Interior, qualifies you for legislative judgments that will be of the utmost importance, not only to the people of Oregon but to the remainder of the nation as well.

I am delighted that you are willing to volunteer for continued duty in the public interest. You and your good wife will always have my very best wishes.

Sincerely,

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

55 ¶ Statement by the President: Job Safety Week. *March 13, 1956*

AN OCCUPATIONAL ACCIDENT, in the factory, on the farm, or on the construction site, has three certain results—human suffering to the victim and his family, economic loss to his employer, and waste of precious skills to his country. There is another certainty about such accidents—they are preventable.

The typically American approach to the problems of job safety—the joining together of all interested parties on a voluntary basis—has saved untold millions of workers from disability and the agonies of injury. We must all make it a business of primary importance to devise methods for preventing the needless accidents that still happen.

In order to direct the attention of all our citizens to this vital work, I have designated May 13–19 as Job Safety Week. Outstanding businessmen, farm and labor leaders, State and Federal officials, and representatives from insurance, education and safety organizations will convene in Washington for the President's Conference on Occupational Safety. Their purpose will be to design voluntary programs to reduce preventable work injuries.

This is a work in which all of us must share. An injury anywhere is a loss to the Nation as a whole. Safety must become a daily habit in all our workplaces if we are to reach our full potential of strength.

I urge Governors and Mayors to use their good offices in their own States and communities so that every employer and worker is aware of the need for safety.

I call upon all my fellow citizens to join with me in making Job Safety Week a success.

56 ¶ The President's News Conference of *March 14, 1956.*

THE PRESIDENT. Good morning. Sit down, please.

I have one or two points I would like to speak about briefly this morning. First is the visit of Mr. Costello, the Prime Minister of Ireland. I am to meet him shortly after the close of this conference, and am looking forward, of course, to seeing him, since it is his first visit as Prime Minister to our country.

I want to make a slight correction on a statement I made last week.

Someone asked me when I had my first hint of the change of Russian policy to an economic penetration of the Mid-East, and I thought it was the Geneva Conference. But I was questioned when I went home, and we looked up all my correspondence. I find it was in an exchange of letters with Bulganin before the foreign ministers conference sometime, I would say, toward the first of October, or something of that order, rather than July.

As you know, every week, I am saying something about the farm business. I don't want to talk about any special bill or special provision now, but I do want again to emphasize this: the planting season is rushing up on us, we need the farm bill now, and I couldn't overstate my anxiety for speed in getting a

good farm bill for our farmers; because, as I say, the planting season is rushing up on us; indeed, in the South it is already here.

Finally, I want to mention the Cyprus question very briefly. Here is a place where two of our very best friends are engaged in an argument with very great difficulty.

Now, we are friendly to both, not only friendly in the sense of traditional friendships with these two peoples, but on top of that, both are vitally necessary to NATO. Their cooperative effort in NATO is essential to the success of that great organization.

So we are ready to do anything that is reasonable and practicable to help in reaching some solution, but the solution itself is going to have to be reached by the people most greatly concerned.

It is a very tough problem, a very complicated problem; but I do want to emphasize that both those peoples are ones with whom we want to preserve our historic friendships.

Now, we will go to questions.

Q. Merriman Smith, United Press: Mr. President, your success in the New Hampshire primary was rather taken for granted, but we wonder what you think of the rather large writein vote for Vice President Nixon?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I will make this comment: apparently there are lots of people in New Hampshire that agree with what I have told you about Dick Nixon.

Now, because you opened that question, I am going to say one thing more about it and then, as far as I am concerned, I will never answer another question on this subject until after August.

Anyone who attempts to drive a wedge of any kind between Dick Nixon and me has just as much chance as if he tried to drive it between my brother and me.

We are very close, as I have told you before. I want to say again what I said last week or a week before; I will say it in exactly the terms I mean: I am very happy that Dick Nixon is my friend. I am very happy to have him as an associate in gov-

ernment. I would be happy to be on any political ticket in which I was a candidate with him.

Now, if those words aren't plain, then it is merely because people can't understand the plain unvarnished truth.

I have nothing further to add.

Q. Alan S. Emory, Watertown Times: Mr. President, I would like to ask two questions in reference to former Governor Dewey of New York: first, could you tell us what role you would like to see him play in the fall campaign for the Republicans; and, second, if you should be re-elected, would you offer him a post in your administration?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, of course, I am very hopeful and I have every confidence that Governor Dewey will, as he has in the past, support the program, governmental economic program, that this Government has always stood behind.

As far as any predictions about what will happen should I again be given the responsibility I now hold, I have nothing whatsoever to say, and I will say this in this case: no one has ever suggested it until just now.

Q. Edward P. Morgan, American Broadcasting Company: Mr. President, southern members of Congress, including a couple of Republicans, have posed a direct challenge to both the other branches of Government, first, in the implied if not declared threat to block your appointments to the judiciary, which might find disfavor on the racial issue; and, second, in a manifesto which was introduced in Congress on Monday, in which some 100 members of the House and Senate commit themselves to try to overturn the Supreme Court decision on segregation. Would you comment on those developments, sir, particularly with reference to what you think the Executive responsibility is and should be.

THE PRESIDENT. Well, you are asking a question that we are probably going to be busy on for a while.

First, I have nothing whatsoever to say about their right to confirm or not confirm. The constitutional duty of the Senate

to act as it sees fit upon the nominations sent up by the President is clear.

I could urge publicly, and I probably would if I thought there were unnecessary blocks, but that is their business, and that doesn't call, as I see it, for any further comment.

Now, the first thing about the manifesto is this: that they say they are going to use every legal means. No one in any responsible position anywhere has talked nullification; there would be a place where we get to a very bad spot for the simple reason I am sworn to defend and uphold the Constitution of the United States and, of course, I can never abandon or refuse to carry out my own duty.

Let us remember that the Supreme Court itself talked about emotionalism in this question, and it was for that reason that it said, "Progress must be gradual."

Now, let us not forget there has been some progress. I believe there is something on the order of more than a quarter of a million of Negro children in the border and some southern States, that have been integrated in the schools, and except for a certain area in which the difficulties are greatest, there has been progress.

As a matter of fact, there was not long ago a decision by the Supreme Court of Texas to the general effect that anything in the laws or in the Constitution of the State of Texas that was in defiance of the Constitution of the United States was null and void.

So, let us remember that there are people who are ready to approach this thing with moderation, but with the determination to make the progress that the Supreme Court asked for.

If ever there was a time when we must be patient without being complacent, when we must be understanding of other people's deep emotions as well as our own, this is it. Extremists on neither side are going to help this situation, and we can only believe that the good sense, the common sense, of Americans will bring this thing along. The length of time I am not even going to talk about; I don't know anything about the length of time it will take.

We are not talking here about coercing, using force in a general way; we are simply going to uphold the Constitution of the United States, see that the progress as ordered by them is carried out.

Now, let us remember this one thing, and it is very important: the people who have this deep emotional reaction on the other side were not acting over these past three generations in defiance of law. They were acting in compliance with the law as interpreted by the Supreme Court of the United States under the decision of 1896.

Now, that has been completely reversed, and it is going to take time for them to adjust their thinking and their progress to that. But I have never yet given up my belief that the American people, faced with a great problem like this, will approach it intelligently and with patience and with understanding, and we will get somewhere; and I do deplore any great extreme action on either side.

Q. Anthony Lewis, *New York Times*: Mr. President, in connection with the racial troubles in the South, sir, it has been suggested that you could use your influence for moderation by calling some white and Negro leaders from the South together here to discuss ways of relieving tensions. Do you see any point at which that would be useful?

THE PRESIDENT. I not only think it would be useful, but if you will look at my state of the Union message, I plead for a joint commission authorized by Congress. The reason I want it authorized by Congress is a simple one: because then they can subpoena witnesses and bring people in and compel them to testify.

Now, if I merely call in a party and let everybody air their views, that would be one thing to do. But it is not the thing I want done.

This decision was made, as I recall, in 1954, and we are getting along now to where some real investigative body ought to be watching it and looking at it all the time. I would like to have that body organized, bipartisan, and with every point of view represented on it, and as quickly as possible.

Q. Robert G. Spivack, *New York Post*: Last week, Mr. President, you said there was no point in supplying arms to Israel because she is outnumbered by the Arabs. I would like to ask if we haven't followed the policy of helping smaller nations, such as the Chinese regime on Formosa, when they were threatened by much larger neighbors?

THE PRESIDENT. Yes.

First of all, I want to say this about this Mid-East question. I have been working long hours lately, going far into the evening — most of them deal with the Mid-East — with the best understanding and the best brains of people that represent both sides that I can get hold of.

I said that had been our policy in the past, that we believed that if we could avoid by any way at all an arms race and use the power of the United Nations and our own Tripartite Declaration, that would be the best way of keeping the peace.

There is no blinking the fact that in that area our interests are very gravely jeopardized, if there is going to be war break out; and, therefore, we have got to explore every possible means. We have foreclosed on nothing.

I never said, and I am sure that the Secretary of State has never said, that we would not furnish arms to Israel. We were hoping for a better solution.

Q. John L. Steele, *Time Magazine*: In that connection, sir, are you able to tell us if this country is about to make a new approach to the United Nations, seeking a peaceful settlement in the Middle East; and, two, if you were considering asking Congress, as you did in the case of Formosa, for a resolution of authority to do what may be necessary in that area?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, the second part of your question has not yet arisen, that has not yet come up as part of our study.

But, as to the first part, that is one of the elements as to exactly what representation to make to the United Nations. That is under study at this moment, and as quickly as it is formulated, why, it will automatically publicize itself.

Q. Francis M. Stephenson, New York Daily News: Mr. President, before the door is closed on the Nixon case, I wonder if—last week you said you would ask him to chart his own course; and I was wondering if he has done that.

THE PRESIDENT. You said before the door is closed. [Laughter] You spoke about five minutes—

Q. Mr. Stephenson: I tried to get my foot in.

THE PRESIDENT. You spoke about five minutes too late. I will say this, however: he knew what I was going to say this morning.

Q. Raymond P. Brandt, St. Louis Post-Dispatch: Mr. President, Senator Knowland said that the revised Bricker amendment had been discussed at the “Big Four Conference” at the White House. Have you any comment now on the revised proposal?

THE PRESIDENT. You know, every morning over here I learn something. This is the first time I have heard our legislative meetings each week called the “Big Four Conference.” [Laughter]

Yes, we discussed it yesterday morning—merely that we would hold it off and examine this whole thing again when Mr. Dulles got back.

As a matter of fact, we have not yet the committee reports on the hearings and deliberations in the committee and, therefore, we are not certain of the meanings of particular phrases; so I am not going to discuss the particular phraseology of that present resolution. But I did make a comment on this thing, I think, just last week or the week before, in which I said exactly the same thing.

Q. Marvin Arrowsmith, Associated Press: Mr. President, strictly in the interests of clarification and not to trespass on grounds that you have barred, but did we understand you correctly to say that you would be happy to have Mr. Nixon “on any political ticket on which I am a candidate”?

THE PRESIDENT. That’s exactly so. I said that last week.

Q. Richard L. Wilson, Cowles Publications: Mr. President, as you know, the Senate has passed a two-price system for wheat

which appears to guarantee 100 percent of parity on the portion of wheat consumed for food domestically. I would like to get your views on that, particularly as to whether or not you think it vitiates the flexible parity principles sufficiently to draw your opposition to the present bill?

THE PRESIDENT. This passed only yesterday, and as a matter of fact, I was talking about it this morning. Its exact language I have not seen. But I would say this: here is a system that has been argued back and forth for many, many years; and as to what I would do about a bill, again the only thing I can say is I would have to see a provision of this sort in the context of the whole bill of which it is a part before I would know what I would do.

They did, as I understand, make this a permissive, or an authorization, rather than a directive.

Q. Sarah McClendon, *El Paso Times*: Mr. President, have you given your approval to a study that is reported to be under way by the Navy, that the Navy take over the submerged lands and keep them for naval stores?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I have learned something else; I didn't know they were studying that. The submerged lands, I believe by law, are to a certain extent owned by the States. Now, beyond that, whether or not there is anything in the offing, I don't know; they haven't brought it to me yet.

Q. Anthony H. Leviero, *New York Times*: Mr. President, this is the 43d anniversary of the Presidential press conferences. I wonder if you have any observations to make on it, and do we ever overlook any questions? [*Laughter*]

THE PRESIDENT. I will say this: once in a while, when some member of my staff comes in and says—just almost shakes his finger in my face—"That is what you are going to be questioned on this morning," I go back and I will say, "Who was that that was so smart?" So, I don't think you overlook them; they probably don't just interest you.

As a matter of fact, I think this is a wonderful institution. While I have seen all sorts of statements that Presidents have considered it a bore and it is a necessary chore to go through, it does a lot of things for me personally.

For one thing, at least once a week I have to take a half hour to review in my own mind what has happened during that week, so that I don't make errors just through complete inadvertence and failure to look them up.

Moreover, I rather like to get the questions because frequently I think they represent the kind of thinking that is going on. I don't mean in tone—everybody is always, of course, very polite and respectful—but I mean the character of the questions frequently shows just exactly what is the thinking that is going on.

Now, this group of people here are sent here undoubtedly because they represent the better class of reporters available to the papers and the associations that send them; consequently, their mass opinions or the general impressions ought to have some value, I think, in any democratic government.

So, all in all, while I didn't know you were 43 years old today, I congratulate you and I hope you continue another 43 years.

Q. Charles S. von Fremd, CBS News: Mr. President, some members of a House subcommittee which is pursuing or examining the problems of civil defense believe, on the basis of testimony they have heard, that we do not have an adequate civil defense program today. Some Civil Defense officials have told them they can't get sufficient funds from Congress and, apparently, there is also a lack of volunteers in some parts of the country. Is there anything you think could or should be done to improve or strengthen civil defense?

THE PRESIDENT. I think if you would go back over the last 3 of these 43 years you are talking about, you would find that I have made several very eloquent speeches on this subject here in this room.

Civil defense by its very nature is a critical local problem. You cannot give civil defense to Atlanta from New York City or vice

versa. The people on the spot have got to take an interest or it cannot be done.

You could appropriate billions, you could put every kind of device and arrangement throughout this country, but unless people themselves will take the interest, and this means learning what they must do in the event of a catastrophe, civil defense will never reach the state of efficiency that it should.

Now, I am talking about the people who are themselves concerned. But, you know, this is a hard kind of thing to get a free people to do. They are busy, and they see someone going along and carrying out his problem, his job. Maybe it is to get under a helmet and go down and be a volunteer member of the fire department. Well, someone sort of grins and says, "Boy Scout," and that is dismissed that way.

This thing is more serious, and here is the great reason that it is more serious: the more effective our civil defense, the greater is the deterrent power of this country against the outbreak of any war. The more that other people know that we take this thing seriously and are prepared to do what need be to defend ourselves, not only in the military sense but in our homes, in our cities, then once we get that started we will have no problem of getting the money for the mechanical defense of cities.

Q. Chalmers M. Roberts, *Washington Post and Times Herald*: Last week, sir, when you said that you would take yourself out as a candidate if there was any adverse change in your health, a number of us drew the inference that you also meant you would resign the Presidency under similar circumstances. Is that a correct inference? And, as a matter of historical interest, did you yourself consider that at the time of your illness last fall?

THE PRESIDENT. Why, last fall, the second that I could talk to my advisers, the first question I wanted to know, "How quickly can I be ready to carry on my duties?"

And, remember, I was meeting with my staff—I will say this, and I don't know whether this is anything against the newspaper profession, but I was meeting with my staffs and getting their

reports and working weeks before they would allow me to see a newspaper. Now, just why that is, I don't know. But I guess they thought maybe some news was bad. [*Laughter*]

But as far as resigning is concerned, I have told the American people this: that I am making myself available for additional duty if they want me, and on the basis that, I told them, I believed I was capable and would remain capable as far as I could determine. When I believe I am not capable, I will not be there, and that's all there is to it.

Q. Alice F. Johnson, *Seattle Times*: Mr. President, about a year ago when you announced your decision on the international routes in the Pacific, you said you were giving a temporary certificate to Northwest Airlines because they were still on subsidy. Subsequent audits proved that they had gone off of subsidy the month before you made the announcement. In view of that fact, would you be willing to give them permanent operating rights in the Pacific now?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I don't know the subsequent orders. What happened was that this case was renewed. I sent it back to the Civil Aeronautics Board for further study. I have heard that they have reached a conclusion, and have started it up toward me, but it has not been staffed through and I have not yet seen it, so until I see that I can't make an answer.

Q. Mrs. May Craig, *Portland (Maine) Press Herald*: Mr. Malenkov, who is in charge of the Soviet Union's electric power stations, is going to England to study their power stations. What is your general attitude toward Soviet officials visiting our country for such purposes?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, now, I would say this: we are not talking now about military secrets; we are talking about the kind of scientific knowledge that is available in the journals of the associations, of the literature of our great universities, and is available to them. So that if we were on a basis of exchanging visitations with the Russians in the scientific field, I certainly would not be

one to hold them out of our civil institutions of that kind—let them take a look.

But I would want a quid pro quo: unless I saw theirs, they wouldn't see mine. I don't believe that we just put these things out as—there is no bait about them. If we are going to have a real exchange relationship, let's have them real, that's all I say.

Q. Lloyd M. Schwartz, Fairchild Publications: Mr. President, have you picked a successor yet to Assistant Attorney General Barnes, of the Antitrust Division?

THE PRESIDENT. They had some names up, but I think, as I remember there was no one picked; but those, no, those are published by the appointments going to the Senate, and there is never any announcement made about them in advance.

Q. Peter Lisagor, Chicago Daily News: I ask this question, perhaps, out of a faulty memory, but is your disclosure about the first hint of Middle Eastern action by the Soviet Union through a Bulganin letter in October, I think you said—was that the first disclosure of such a letter with Premier Bulganin, and if so, could you tell us what the nature of that hint was?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, no, I merely mentioned it. I have said before that I have periodic exchanges and communications with Bulganin.

Now, when I went to look it up, I knew that it was in connection with some conference, but my memory had played me a trick. Instead of the one to which I went, it was merely the one in which I was conferring with others; and in connection with that work I did write this letter, and had an answer, and that was before the foreign ministers conference. But I think I have not discussed any item in that letter otherwise.

Q. William V. Shannon, New York Post: Mr. President, as you know, the Federal aid to schools bill is tied up in both Houses because of the Powell antisegregation amendment, and a group of Democratic Congressmen have written you asking that you declare that you will not allocate Federal funds to any school district that refuses to comply with the Supreme Court decree

on desegregation. And Mr. Powell, who is not in this group, has said that if the President would issue such a declaration he would withdraw his amendment, and it would then be up to the executive department to pick and choose where to enforce the Supreme Court decision.

I was wondering if you would comment on their request.

THE PRESIDENT. I am not going to make any declaration in advance of any law that is placed in front of me. I never do, and I want to see the law first.

Merriman Smith, United Press: Thank you, Mr. President.

NOTE: President Eisenhower's eighty-second news conference was held in the Executive Office Building from 10:33 to 11:01 o'clock on Wednesday morning, March 14, 1956. In attendance: 194.

57 ¶ Remarks to National Council of the United Service Organizations. *March 15, 1956*

I BROUGHT along something to show that I am really authorized to meet with this group. This is my official insignia as the Honorary Chairman of the United Service Organizations.

It would be difficult for me to tell you how delightful it is for me to meet with any group whose chief concerns are the men and women in our Armed Services. All of you know that I spent most of my adult life in those Services. I know what America owes them. I know what they like to feel when they are away from their own homes and how much we can do, through such organizations as this, to give them the feeling that they are appreciated.

I understand that this group—this body—and I see a lot of my old war comrades out here too—but in general you represent the connecting link between the headquarters of USO and the people of our country who provide the means to make possible your clubs, your entertainment and all the things you do for those soldiers.

I think the only real thought I want to get across to you is this: I could not imagine a more worthy public service for you to be

doing today. It appears certain that for some years to come our Armed Forces must be numbered in the millions, not in the size of the armed forces that we knew in those days back in the twenties and thirties. With that much of a segment of the United States out in uniform, serving under strange conditions, it is incumbent upon us, just as we educate our children in school, to let them know that we know why they are there, that we are appreciative of what they are doing, and we try to make life a little bit more homelike for them.

So if I knew of words to make my thanks as deep as I feel them, you would all probably think I am guilty of exaggeration. But I wouldn't be. I do thank you all from the bottom of my heart, from the old viking Admiral over there that I haven't seen in years, right on down to the youngest person in the gang.

I am delighted to meet you. I thank you sincerely. I hope you are going to have a nice time. I hear you are going to have a little tour around here. I don't know if you will see anything of interest, but I hope you do.

Goodbye.

NOTE: The President spoke in the Rose Garden at 4:33 p. m. His words "the old viking Admiral" referred to Admiral John L. Hall, Jr., USN (Ret.).

58 ¶ Special Message to the Congress on the Mutual Security Program. *March 19, 1956*

To the Congress of the United States:

For almost a decade the United States has moved, year by year, with growing success, to help fortify the economies and military strength of nations of the free world. Over the years this effort has changed in size and character in keeping with changing world affairs. Today it remains as indispensable to the security of every

American citizen and to the building of an enduring peace as on the day it began nine years ago.

Today this great nation, at the peak of its peacetime military and economic strength, must not hesitate or retreat in this vital undertaking. Nor can we subordinate this program to local concerns or collateral issues, on the unsound premise that steady progress through this program for nine years makes it no longer necessary.

We cannot now falter in our quest for peace.

The need for a mutual security program is urgent because there are still nations that are eager to strive with us for peace and freedom but, without our help, lack the means of doing so.

The need is urgent because there are still forces hostile to freedom that compel the Free World to maintain adequate and coordinated military power to deter aggression.

The need is urgent because there are still peoples who aspire to sustain their freedom but confront economic obstacles that are beyond their capabilities of surmounting alone.

These facts are as fundamental to our own security and well-being as the maintenance of our own armed forces.

Our goal is clear—an enduring peace with justice. To achieve it will continue to require effort, skill, patience, and sacrifice. Toward it we must and will strive constantly by every means available to us.

We must continue to work with other countries to insure that each free nation remains free, secure from external aggression and subversion, and able to develop a society marked by human welfare, individual liberty, and a rising standard of living. We must continue to maintain our economic and military strength at home. We must continue to stimulate expansion of trade and investment in the free world. We must continue helping to build the productive capacities of free nations through public loans and guaranties of private investment. We must continue to provide technical knowledge and essential materials to speed the advance of other nations in peaceful uses of the atom. We must continue

our cultural and educational exchanges to expand mutual knowledge and understanding. We must continue and intensify our information programs so that the peoples of the world may know our peaceful purposes and our love of human liberty. And through our mutual security programs we must continue helping to create in the free world conditions in which freedom can survive and develop, and free nations can maintain the defensive strength necessary to deter aggression.

Peace with justice remains the sole objective of our mutual security programs. We have no other interest to advance. We have no desire or intent to subjugate or subvert other peoples—no purpose to change their chosen political, economic, or cultural patterns—no wish to make any of them our satellites. We seek only to further the cause of freedom and independence and to develop the military strength necessary to protect and defend it, in the interest of peace.

To help a free country to maintain forces necessary for the protection of its freedom and independence but beyond those which it can alone support may mean foregoing some domestic expenditure. To help a less developed nation in its initial steps toward an economy that can sustain freedom and independence and provide opportunity for higher living standards may mean postponement of desirable projects here in this country. We must continue willing to make these sacrifices, for the benefits we gain in the interests of peace are well worth the price. The mutual security program is a demand of the highest priority upon our resources.

Because our people and the peoples of other nations in the Free World have been willing to make the necessary sacrifices, the past mutual security programs have achieved a real measure of success. By combined effort the free world has advanced toward stability and toward economic strength. It has achieved the power and the will to resist aggression. Collective security arrangements have brought into existence free world defense forces and facilities far greater than those which we, by our unaided

efforts, could have raised and maintained from our own resources without a crushing burden of taxation on our people. In their economic aspects, our programs have made significant advances toward the solution of many problems of the free world. Without this assistance many other nations, beyond doubt, if existing at all, would exist today only in the grip of chaos. Moreover, we ourselves are more secure, more prosperous, better fitted to go forward in the common enterprise of freedom than ever before.

Significant testimony to the success of our mutual security programs appears in the new turns and developments of Soviet policy. Aggression through force appears to have been put aside, at least temporarily, and the Communists are now making trade approaches to many nations of the free world.

The Soviet maneuver, which is still developing, includes offers of bilateral trade arrangements which may involve provision of arms and capital goods as well as technical assistance. Had we any reason to believe that the Soviet leaders had abandoned their sinister objectives, and now shared our own high purpose of helping other nations to develop freedom and independence, we would welcome the new Soviet program, for it appears to have aspects of normal trade expansion and business competition. Its danger for us and for other free nations, however, lies in the traditional Soviet objectives and in the entanglements to which acceptance of their offers may lead.

Even while we welcome respite from the Soviet policy of threat and violence, we must take careful stock of what still remains of it. The vast Soviet military establishment has not been scrapped. On the contrary, the Soviets and their Communist allies are increasing the strength and effectiveness of their armed forces and are providing them with equipment of the most modern design. The threat implicit in this huge aggregation of military power still casts an ominous shadow over the world. There is nothing here to warrant a slackening of our efforts to strengthen the common defense of the free world.

In its new departures in foreign policy, we see that the Soviet

Union continues in its familiar pattern of ceaseless probing for opportunities to exploit political and economic weaknesses. We cannot view otherwise the arms traffic in areas where tensions are high and the peace is in danger. We cannot view otherwise the extension of credits hand in hand with exploitation of ancient animosities and new hatreds in a world already overburdened with them.

We must therefore assume that Soviet expansionism has merely taken on a somewhat different guise and that its fundamental objective is still to disrupt and in the end to dominate the free nations. With Soviet leaders openly proclaiming their world aim, it would be folly for us and our friends to relax our collective efforts toward stability and security.

Needless to say, we do not intend to permit specific Soviet moves to control our activities. Our mutual security program, conceived in the common interests of the free nations, must go ahead affirmatively along tested lines to meet the common need. Where changes now give promise of making the program more responsive to the need and more effective, I am recommending changes.

The authorizations and appropriations I am recommending for Fiscal Year 1957 are designed to carry forward the program toward the goal we seek.

I recommend that the Congress authorize appropriations of \$4,672,475,000 in accordance with the schedule attached. In a separate letter to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, I am requesting the appropriation of \$4,859,975,000 for the same fiscal year to cover these recommended authorizations together with authorizations granted but not fully used in prior years. Certain aspects of this program require special attention.

CONTINUITY AND FLEXIBILITY

We should be able to assure the nations of the free world that we will continue to participate in particular non-military projects and enterprises which will take a number of years to complete.

Such assurance from us will help these nations to mobilize their own funds for projects which will contribute to an important degree to their economic strength, to enlist public and private loans and investment, and to plan ahead intelligently. It will be difficult for these nations to organize such projects unless Mutual Security Program support can be relied on for more than a single year.

I request authority of the Congress to make commitments up to ten years in length to assist less developed countries in long term projects important to their development. Funds to fulfill such commitments would come from appropriations for non-military mutual security, and would not exceed an aggregate of \$100 million in any year.

The Mutual Security Program, in a world in which events move with great rapidity, requires that flexible authority exist for the use of funds made available by the Congress. Section 401 of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended, provides such flexibility with respect to the funds appropriated, or transferred, for use pursuant to that section. It provides a valuable means of meeting numerous unforeseeable requirements for assistance without the necessity for postponing or reducing other urgently needed programs.

A year ago the Congress appropriated a Special Presidential Fund of \$100 million to be used under section 401. For Fiscal Year 1957, I request the authorization of an appropriation of a further \$100 million for this Special Fund. I also ask that the authority of the President to transfer other mutual security funds for use under the provisions of section 401 be increased. With respect to at least \$100 million in this Special Fund, I urge that the maximum degree of flexibility be authorized for its expenditure whenever the President determines that the use of sums in this manner is important to the security of the United States.

The Middle East and Africa are areas in which it is especially important to build new strength friendly to us. There is need for an adequate fund which can be used to assist in meeting special

economic problems that may arise in those regions. The United States must be in a position to act promptly to help the governments in this area in their efforts to find solutions for economic and social problems. I therefore recommend creation of a special fund of \$100 million to be available for use in any part of the Middle East or Africa for non-military Mutual Security programs which will advance the cause of free world security and economic strength.

In 1955, the President's Fund for Asian Economic Development was established. The sum of \$100 million was then appropriated for it and authorization was given for the appropriation of a further \$100 million. It is now desirable that the whole of the funds authorized be made available, and I shall request the appropriation of the remaining \$100 million.

ADVANCED WEAPONS SYSTEMS

I recommend that about \$530 million be made available to enable the Department of Defense to begin a program of aiding our allies in developing an even more effective defense based on an improved and better coordinated early warning and communications system and utilizing advanced weapons systems, including missiles, now being procured for our troops.

These advanced weapons, which are purely defensive in character, pose no threat to any nation which does not initiate aggression. They are designed to give warning of, and repel, such aggression—and by their potential effectiveness to deter it.

The sum of \$195 million has been included initially for NATO countries in the Fiscal Year 1957 Program. The eventual distribution of the balance of the advanced weapons included in the 1957 program will be made on the basis of later judgment as to their most effective employment world-wide.

Our defense methods cannot be static in view of the constant growth of the military potential of the Communists. We and our allies must keep our defenses adequate to meet new methods of attack. Because of the rapidity of scientific advances, it is likely

that the content of this advanced weapons program will be modified from time to time.

EUROPE

The program for the NATO countries of Europe (excluding Greece and Turkey) is primarily one of military assistance. This includes the advanced weapons I have mentioned. Although our allies have made great progress in building up their defense forces, military grant assistance is still necessary in most countries to assist them in maintaining equipment and replacing materiel lost by attrition. No economic assistance is proposed for any European country in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. A small amount of technical exchange assistance is proposed.

Continued economic support is required for Berlin, and military and economic support for Spain and Yugoslavia.

MIDDLE EAST, AFRICA AND ASIA

In Asia and the Middle East, serious risk of aggression still exists. The program recommends aggregate military assistance of approximately \$1,640 million for countries in these regions which must maintain substantial forces in the field to resist possible attacks. The military assistance which we propose will support the objectives of various mutual defense pacts, including SEATO, to which the United States is a party.

In these areas, the problems of building security are economic as well as military. Many of the nations in the area do not now have the resources required for a minimum rate of economic growth. They are striving to create the standards of living under which their economies can develop. This is a long-term process, in which their own efforts will play the major part, but in which our help can be crucial.

The program, accordingly, proposes economic help to those of our allies whose own resources cannot support their essential defense effort. This help is designed, as in former years, in part to

assist projects of a non-military character which further defense activities, in part to help build internal resources and economic stability, and in part to contribute to the recipient's programs of economic development.

Provision is also made for economic assistance to nations in the Middle East, Africa, and Asia which receive no military assistance, where such economic assistance will contribute to their economic strength and thus to their ability to retain their independence. This program is of the utmost importance to the security of the free world.

The program for Fiscal Year 1957 also provides for continuing our technical cooperation and assistance in less developed countries.

LATIN AMERICA

We propose to strengthen further the friendly relationships which exist with our sister republics to the south. I recommend that we continue to encourage by technical assistance the programs, initiated by Latin American nations, to make better use of their own resources. We should also continue our participation in the technical assistance activities of the Organization of American States.

In special circumstances, when loans from the Export-Import Bank and the World Bank are not available to countries facing critical situations, the Mutual Security Program has assisted in meeting temporary economic problems, as in the case of two countries where it is proposed that such assistance be continued in the next fiscal year.

Military assistance in Latin America should be continued where needed in order to provide standardized equipment, maintenance of equipment already furnished, and training in the use of such equipment.

UNITED NATIONS AND OTHER SPECIAL PROGRAMS

The United States should continue its support of the United Nations Expanded Technical Assistance Program, the United

Nations Children's Fund, and the United Nations Relief and Works Agency which provides relief and rehabilitation of the Arab Refugees from Palestine.

Provision is also made for continuing our support of the program of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the work of the Intergovernmental Committee for European Migration. Authorizations for continuing our own government's program for care and resettlement of escapees from Communism, and our program of paying the ocean freight costs of shipment both of relief supplies donated to our voluntary relief agencies and of surplus agricultural commodities, are also recommended.

SIZE OF THE PROGRAM

The request for military assistance authorization in fiscal year 1957 is substantially larger than the requests and appropriations for this purpose for the past two years. The lower level of appropriations for Fiscal Years 1955 and 1956 will, by the end of the current fiscal year, have brought about reduction in unexpended balances over the two-year period by approximately \$2½ billion to \$3 billion. Now, however, in order to maintain the flow of military assistance in 1958 and 1959 an increase in the appropriation for Fiscal Year 1957 is required.

A substantial period of "lead" time is required to translate appropriated funds into actual payment for, and deliveries of, nearly all items of military equipment. This year, for the first time, more than \$500 million are included in the military assistance program for advanced weapons. These weapons, because of their complexity, have even longer lead times.

On the economic side of the program, appropriations for the last two years have been approximately at the same rate as expenditures. The amounts requested this year for economic assistance are larger principally because of the new fund proposed for the Middle East and Africa and because of heavier emphasis on programs in Asia.

OTHER ASPECTS OF THE PROGRAM

The Mutual Security Program for Fiscal Year 1957 proposes continued procurement within the United States of surplus agricultural commodities for use abroad. In addition, large amounts of such commodities are moving abroad under the Agricultural Trade Development and Assistance Act for the mutual benefit of this and other countries. This latter effort has been considered in the development of the 1957 Mutual Security Program requirements, and every effort is being made to coordinate the two programs.

In the request for appropriations to carry out the Fiscal Year 1957 program, I am urging that Congress permit greater flexibility in the obligation of appropriations, in order that there may be more thorough planning of expenditures and more time allowed for necessary negotiation of contracts with suppliers and of arrangements with other nations.

CONCLUSION

The Mutual Security Program is vitally important to our people. Its cost is not disproportionate to our Nation's resources and to our national income. That cost is a low price to pay for the security and vastly greater chances for world peace which the program provides.

The Mutual Security Program is an indispensable part of our national effort to meet affirmatively the challenge of all the forces which threaten the independence of the Free World and to overcome the conditions which make peace insecure and progress difficult.

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

NOTE: This message is also printed in House Document 358 (84th Cong., 2d sess.), which includes the authorization and appropriation request transmitted with the message.

59 ¶ Statement by the President Upon Signing Bill for the Relief of Irfan Kavar.

March 19, 1956

THE BILL (S. 1483) for the relief of Irfan Kavar would grant permanent resident immigration status to Mr. Kavar, a native of Nazareth, Palestine, and a national of Jordan. Mr. Kavar entered the United States on September 24, 1951, under an exchange-visitor visa in order to accept a graduate fellowship at Princeton University. He has received extensions of stay to enable him to take up subsequent fellowships at Princeton and Harvard University, and is presently employed as an assistant professor at the University of California at Los Angeles, teaching the Arabic language and literature.

In the absence of special circumstances, I am opposed to adjusting the immigration status of individuals who enter the United States as participants in the program for the international exchange of persons under the provisions of Public Law 402, 80th Congress, as amended. They come with the specific understanding that they will return home and put to use there the knowledge and experience which they have gained in the United States. Permitting such an individual to remain in the United States as a permanent resident negates the whole purpose of the program.

In Mr. Kavar's case, however, the evidence indicates that he was issued an exchange-visitor visa by mistake, that he was not sponsored by Princeton University as an exchange student, and did not participate in any way in the exchange-visitor program. He was eligible for, and could have been issued, a regular student visa. Because the type of visa issued to him was issued through error, and because he did not participate in the exchange program, I have approved the bill for his relief.

NOTE: As enacted, S. 1483 is Private Law 536, 84th Congress (70 Stat. A18).

60 ¶ Letter to Prime Minister U Nu on
Receiving Gift of Burmese Teak. *March 19, 1956*

[Released March 19, 1956. Dated March 7, 1956]

Dear Mr. Prime Minister:

I recall with pleasure your visit to the United States last summer and the friendly chat we had wherein I expressed my admiration of teak, one of the most famed products of your great forests. Now, your thoughtful gift of ten tons of Burmese teak has arrived at the White House.

I have entrusted the timber to the White House cabinet-makers and I am certain that they will be able to put this magnificent wood to use in beautiful ways that will serve to symbolize the enduring friendship between our two countries.

May I express to you, Mr. Prime Minister, my deep appreciation and that of the American people for this considerate gesture.

Sincerely,

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

61 ¶ Cablegram to the President of Lebanon
Expressing Sympathy Following an Earthquake
Disaster. *March 20, 1956*

[Released March 20, 1956. Dated March 19, 1956]

His Excellency

Camille Chamoun

President of the Republic of Lebanon

News of the tragic consequences of the earthquakes in Lebanon has been received with sorrow and concern throughout the United States. On behalf of the American people I send deepest sym-

pathy to Your Excellency and to all those who are suffering in this disaster.

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

62 ¶ The President's News Conference of
March 21, 1956.

THE PRESIDENT. Please be seated. I have a couple of points that I should like to discuss briefly this morning.

The first one is the progress we have made on the Hoover Commission reports.

As you know, the first Hoover Commission dealt solely with the problems of organization in the Federal Government.

The second Hoover Commission was set up with a much broader charter that directed it to go into the functions of Government—indeed, whether they should be performed at all—give its recommendations respecting basic activities of the Federal Government. Consequently, its recommendations were deeper, more far reaching, and took longer study to determine their applicability than did those recommendations of the first Commission.

Out of the 360-some recommendations of this Commission, some 320-odd pertain in some way or other to the Defense Department.

The Defense Department has just sent me in a report¹ that 85 percent of those 320-some recommendations have been accepted wholly or at least in substance, and that the other 15 percent are of the type that are undergoing constant examination. Of course, in other departments there has been comparable progress, but the reason that the Defense record brings such great satisfaction to me is because it involves so many of the recommendations of the Commission.

¹ See Item 64.

This calls, I think, for sort of a vote of thanks to the Hoover Commission. It proves the soundness with which they worked, the task force that they had in the Defense Department; and it is, I think, a record of fairly speedy but nevertheless thoughtful examination of these recommendations in their application to the Federal departments; and from them we expect to realize real economies and improvements in efficiency.

I am expecting Secretary Dulles back this evening, and should see him briefly.

Tomorrow morning at 8:30 we will have a bipartisan meeting of the legislative leaders in the Cabinet room of the White House, and he will report to them. Then during the course of the day and the following day he will report to two committees of Congress, and on Friday evening to the American people over television, I think, at 10:30.

These trips, of course, are onerous burdens on an individual, but we have found them extremely worthwhile. The personal contact with leaders of other countries is something that we have tried to bring about and to sustain, and we find that through it we gain better understanding of common problems than we do merely by trusting to the normal diplomatic exchanges.

This same kind of theory lies behind the meeting to which I will go next Monday down at White Sulphur Springs, and also it is behind the invitation that I extended to Prime Minister Nehru, which he has accepted. And as, I believe, already published, he will be here in early July.

Those meetings again will be informal, without agenda.

He and I both agreed that we would like to have some quiet spot where we can discuss our common problems, and I must say I am highly gratified that he was able to accept my invitation. We realize it is not easy for any head of government to accept such an invitation and to leave his country for that length of time, but it will be right at the end of the Commonwealth Conference in London, and he will take advantage of being that near, and come across the Atlantic.

I think that is all I have in announcements, and we will go to questions.

Q. Robert E. Clark, International News Service: Mr. President, Senator Kefauver says the large vote in the Minnesota primary indicates a revolt against your farm program. Can you give us your view of what happened in Minnesota yesterday?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, no, I can't give any analysis of the Minnesota vote yesterday. But I do say this: Minnesota is, of course, a very important State in the country; it is the first very large State that has a primary. And I remember that back in 1952, I think, the great write-in vote in Minnesota in my case did as much as any other single thing to convince me that I should look at this political business a little bit more seriously than I had up to that moment.

I was certainly honored by what they did; so, the same way, this is something to be studied and see exactly what it does mean.

Now, with respect to the farm problem, I believe that farmers, as well as others, understand that this administration is working hard to produce a program that gives them a hundred percent of parity in the market place, and if you try to do that hundred percent parity merely by passing laws to that effect, we are going to pile up trouble that we cannot possibly solve, because it means just piling up of reserves and of surpluses, in the products in which we already are oversupplied.

I believe that the program sent to the Hill on this farm problem is comprehensive, helpful, not only helpful today in helping the farmer with his present problem of giving him some income out of the business of eliminating acres from production, but in the long-term for that man's children and for his children's children, you will have a sound program. You can't possibly have it merely by passing large rigid price support laws and saying, "We will pay this."

If you would apply this to every product in the country, we would certainly be soon in a very bad hole.

With respect to that bill as it now stands, I don't think it is a good bill. I don't think it is workable. I think it would bury the farmers under surpluses that they couldn't stand, and it would break the prices still further. But I do point out that there is still a conference to go through, and I think those conferees, looking at this thing sensibly, may write a good bill, one which can really be helpful to the farmer.

Q. David Sentner, Hearst Newspapers: Mr. President, can you give your reaction to the continued attack on Stalin by the new Soviet regime?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, you ask a question, of course, that no one can give you a positive answer except those that are doing it.

There are all sorts of speculation, but there is one thing about it, and this may have some influence: I suppose most of you have read at least parts of Stalin's "Problems of Leninism." Well, now, in that you find certain doctrines, but this collective leadership is now following other methods in other areas in its foreign relations. Therefore, you had to repudiate something about Stalin, and possibly they just go the whole way and repudiate the man as well as some of his doctrinal works.

Q. Charles von Fremd, CBS News: Mr. President, I would like to ask a related question, sir, in your answer to the repudiation of Stalin. Do you think there is a danger of future consequences with our allies because of the Russian repudiation of Stalin, that our allies may now believe that the Soviet Government has adopted a new policy and a better one?

THE PRESIDENT. I think that there is no question in the minds of most of our allies, at least in the minds of those with whom I have talked, that the basic communistic objective has not changed; therefore, I do not believe they will allow their guards to fall carelessly and complacently.

But you have to set over against that the clear understanding of our own motives and our own ideas and plans.

We know that we want only peace. We want peaceful relations with those nations in the world that will be friendly with us.

We want to promote trade; we want to promote interchange of travel and of ideas, exchange of scientific information, everything of that kind that we believe will advance the standards of the human race.

But those purposes and aims, clear as they are to us, are not well understood abroad.

I have a lecture I was reading last night, and I am sorry I can't remember the man's name. He is a foreign professor who has been serving over here 2 years, and he has arrived at certain answers with regard to this thing. I believe I am going to circulate it as widely as I can, I think it has got some of the best ideas I have seen on it. But we must make certain that our own peaceful intentions stand out and our idea of preserving the independence of the people with whom we deal stands out in clear opposition to what we believe to be the aims and purposes of the other side.

Q. Marguerite Higgins, New York Herald Tribune: Mr. President, right along that line, in light of the renewed Arab accusation that the U. S. is reverting to a support of colonialism in the Middle East, would you clarify United States policy on the African movements for national independence?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, first of all, with my approval, Ambassador Dillon made a speech yesterday in France, and that expresses our hope that there can be equitable and fair, just settlements of these great problems that affect these countries.

Now, these two areas have a very definite measure of interdependence between them. We know that—I'm talking now about France and Algeria—and therefore it seems to us in the best interests of both sides that we arrive at some composition that does recognize legitimate rights of one side but, at the same time, does not completely disrupt a relationship that probably should exist.

This is our idea in all of these areas that have their local antagonisms and troubles, whether it is Mid-East, whether it is Africa or whatever the area, to try to help these countries see on

either side of a quarrel that their best interests lie in some composition, in mediation rather than in conflict, because today, as never before, the several nations need the help of each other in advancing their own economies and in increasing trade, so that there can be advancing standards of living and the proper aspirations of people can be gradually achieved.

Now, I recognize, this is an easy speech to make. It is a hard thing to bring about, because you have got age-old antagonisms; you have all sorts of fanatical thought brought to these problems that has no place really in it, except as it is always there; and you have, of course, the Communists interfering when they can.

Nevertheless, it remains our sincere effort in all of these areas to try to retain friendships with both sides and, therefore, use our good offices to bring about a decent solution.

Q. James B. Reston, New York Times: Mr. President, would you kindly clarify for us your thinking about the relationship between the Executive and the Legislature in these difficult areas? For example, if the Middle Eastern situation is so serious as to be placed before the U. N. as a threat to the peace of the world, why is it not serious enough to be placed before the Congress to see what the sense of the Congress is about it?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, as I see it, the two committees, the Foreign Relations Committee and the Foreign Affairs Committee, are set up to keep in constant contact with the State Department, which is the executive agency for handling these affairs. The policymaking officials of that department, the heads, appear constantly before these committees and keep them informed.

Only recently, Secretary Dulles told me how many times he had appeared before one of the committees of Congress since he has been here; I assure you it is a formidable number, and the same way with the Under Secretaries.

Then, there are bipartisan meetings when there seems to be a reason for having them.

I agree with you they should be kept informed, but our agency is through the committees.

Q. Mr. Reston: Mr. President, do you draw a distinction between informing them and the procedure followed in the Formosa Straits question where you presented it as a resolution?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, there I asked for certain authority, and I had to ask for action from them.

Now, let's be perfectly clear: the Constitution holds the President responsible for carrying on the foreign relations of the United States of America; you can't get out of that. And, consequently, knowing that to carry on those foreign affairs you need the approval of Congress, because you need appropriations often, you need organizations set up, you do keep them informed just as a matter of practical workings of a political organization.

On top of that, in such matters as you see a treaty coming up or a resolution, you get them in and confer with them in advance, and try to discover whether there is any better idea than your own.

I am certain of this—I will put it this way: I have been assured there have been more meetings of a bipartisan character and of the informative type as between the Executive and the proper committees of the Legislature in this past 3 years than any similar 3 years of the past.

Certainly, we are doing our best, and where we failed, it is of the head and not of the heart.

Q. Charles E. Shutt, Telenews: Atomic scientist Ralph Lapp announced yesterday that it was perfectly possible for scientists to construct a billion ton TNT nuclear bomb, and termed it as a suicide weapon, that could only be carried by a freighter. Could you tell us how this information might affect the importance of the disarmament talks that you discussed recently?

THE PRESIDENT. No. As a matter of fact, I wouldn't make any real comment upon it.

While I have been told many times that there is no theoretical limit to the size of these instruments which can be made, there is, I think, a practical limit, as long as you are thinking of using it only against someone else. There is size of targets. There is an

old saying, "You do not drive a tack with a sledge hammer." So when you have gotten something, let's say, of a maximum tactical size, useful size, why I would think you would go no further.

Now, this possibility that he expresses, I think we will have to turn that over to social scientists because I don't know how to try to answer it.

Q. Thomas N. Schroth, *Congressional Quarterly*: Some Republican Congressmen have referred to the present session as a do-nothing Congress. With the Easter recess coming on, how would you say that your legislative program is progressing this year in Congress, and how does it compare with previous years of your administration?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I haven't drawn up any scoreboard for this time of the year. Usually in these dealings, we put down—really on a board—the number of bills that we consider essential parts of the program, and then during the course of the session we keep track of where it is, when it gets through one House or when it comes out of committee, and so on and so on. I haven't thought of comparing that scoreboard with any of the past years.

I do feel this: the road bill seems to be making some progress. The farm bill, which I thought started out pretty well, got into quite a jam, and I have already expressed myself this morning about it.

The school bill seems to be on dead center. I am hopeful that the aid bill will soon be passed; and I think the normal appropriation bills will come through on schedule. So I couldn't give you an estimate of the comparison.

Q. Chalmers M. Roberts, *Washington Post and Times Herald*: Mr. President, following Mr. Reston's questions, could you tell us how seriously you do consider the Middle East situation, and just exactly what is your hope that the U. N. will do at this meeting, which you have requested or which the U. S. has requested?

THE PRESIDENT. The United States is committed to using every peaceful means to bring about the effectuation of its policies.

Now, that means that constantly we must support the United Nations effort because that is what it is set up for. It is an organism set up by the nations of the world to do just that. Along with it we have made the 3-party declaration of May 1950 and we take that very seriously.

We would believe that any outbreak of major hostilities in the region would be a catastrophe to the world. As you know, all of Western Europe has gradually gone to oil instead of coal for its energy, and that oil comes from the Mid-East. The region is of great—as a matter of fact, it is of extraordinary—importance to all the free world, so that just for material reasons alone we must regard every bit of unrest there as the most serious matter.

Now, I do not say that we are going to be able to eliminate prejudices, but if we can support the commission team over there, all of us, with our moral strength, trying to make these people see that mediation is the true road to their own prosperity, maybe we can get somewhere.

But I am just saying that so far as it is possible, we never give up trying to bring every peaceful influence we can into settling these quarrels around the world.

Q. Mr. Roberts: Well, sir, are you suggesting that this U. N. session should send Mr. Hammarskjold or someone like that out to try to mediate this?

THE PRESIDENT. The details of our plan will be published at the proper time. They are not out yet.

Q. Robert G. Spivack, *New York Post*: With regard to the situation in Alabama, Mr. President, how do you feel about Negroes being brought to trial for refusing to ride the Montgomery buses?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, you are asking me, I think, to be more of a lawyer than I certainly am. But, as I understand it, there is a State law about boycotts, and it is under that kind of thing that these people are being brought to trial.

I think that the statement I made last week on this whole

subject represents all the views that I now have to make; and I do believe that it is incumbent on all the South to show some progress. That is what the Supreme Court asked for. And they turned it over to local district courts.

I believe that we should not stagnate; but again I plead for understanding, for really sympathetic consideration of a problem that is far larger both in its emotional and even in its physical aspects than most of us realize.

Q. Douglass Cater, *The Reporter Magazine*: Mr. President, your school construction bill is on dead center, as you said, mainly because of controversy over whether it should be used as an instrument of desegregation. I wonder if you have any ideas of a positive approach that could be taken to get it off dead center and get some legislation this year?

THE PRESIDENT. I have expressed myself on that subject several times. I don't think I have anything further to add to that.

Q. Sarah McClendon, *Port Arthur News*: This question concerns the Texas City tin smelter, which is the only tin smelter on the North American Continent. I believe you are getting ready to submit a report on this to Congress,¹ and the preliminary reports are that you are going to recommend that it be closed. I wonder if you have studied the possibility that if you close this plant you are handing a monopoly on tin production over to the British?

THE PRESIDENT. Did you ever look up the records on that tin smelter?

Q. Mrs. McClendon: Yes, sir; I looked up some of them.

¹ In transmitting the report (March 29, 1956; H. Doc. 371, 84th Cong., 2d sess.) the President stated that he concurred with its conclusions (1) that the determination as to the practicability of establishing a permanent tin-smelting industry in the United States be left to private enterprise and (2) that the Federal Government terminate its operation of the Texas City smelter not later than June 30, 1956. The President added that he would have no objection to the continuation of operations of the smelter until January 31, 1957, to provide time for completing negotiations for its sale, as recommended by the Director of the Office of Defense Mobilization.

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I think you will find it is not an efficient tin smelter. It is one of those things that we got into because of war reasons, and it is not the kind of smelter that works efficiently today. I will say this: the report that you are now speaking of has not reached my desk, and I have not approved anything at this moment. But it is a very poor economic showing that thing makes.

Q. Merriman Smith, United Press: When you were discussing Prime Minister Nehru's visit, you said you would like to have a quiet spot to discuss current policies. Are you going to meet Nehru in Washington or some other place, sir?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I imagine that we will meet here, but just where we will land finally, I can't tell you now. But he did express something that I agreed with thoroughly, and that was if we could be away from the ceremonial and the too official ends of this business, that we could probably get more done.

Q. Rowland Evans, Jr., New York Herald Tribune: Mr. President, there are some indications that some Negro leaders may be in the process of switching their political allegiance from the Democratic to the Republican Party. If you accept that premise, sir, could you discuss possible reasons for this?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I have got a very good one. I have told you a dozen times that it is anybody's judgment as to whether I am doing my job well or not doing it well, but as far as I am concerned, I am trying to do it for 166 million people, not for any group.

I don't care how you define them, how you separate them geographically or racially or religiously, I am for America, and that is what I am trying to do. So if they want to come in under that umbrella, I welcome them with open arms.

Q. William H. Lawrence, New York Times: Mr. President, returning to this Nehru business, the Reverend Billy Graham told us in the White House lobby yesterday that he had strongly urged upon you that you yourself go to India as one of these means of

making people better understand our motives and our policies. Would you care to comment on the suggestion?

THE PRESIDENT. Since the day I came into this office, I have been trying to figure out a logical way for me to go to places where I should very much like to go without instantly getting involved in going to a dozen others; that would instantly prove it a physical impossibility, you see.

Now, India is one of the places that, for 20 years, I have wanted to go; I haven't made it yet, and I would very much like to go to it. I would like to go to some other places, too, but India is one of the very important ones that I should like to visit. But I have never solved this problem of how can you go to one place and not go to a dozen.

Q. Mrs. May Craig, Portland (Maine) Press Herald: Mr. President, this is related to Mr. Lawrence's question. You give a good deal of time to the Reverend Graham, and I wondered if you would tell us why you feel the interest in him? Are you thinking of mobilizing the religious countries of the world against communism?

THE PRESIDENT. Actually, this is the first time I had realized I had given a great deal of time to him. I see him normally on a matter of a few minutes, and yesterday, I believe, was probably the longest visit I ever had with him. No, he did visit me at my farm; I had lunch with him.

Now, this is what I see in Billy Graham: a man who clearly understands that any advance in the world has got to be accompanied by a clear realization that man is, after all, a spiritual being.

He carries his religion to the far corners of the earth, trying to promote peace, trying to promote mediation instead of conflict, tolerance instead of prejudice.

Now, he does that in this country, he does it abroad. Therefore, because of the very great crowds that he attracts to listen to him, I am very much interested in Billy Graham's activities,

but for that reason only. I have never discussed with him any plan for mobilizing nations, no.

Q. Mrs. Craig: Well, sir, he has spoken of mobilizing Christianity. My thought was that perhaps you were thinking of mobilizing all religions against the nonreligious Communists.

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I have certainly often in public talks, although I have never thought of putting this in any kind of a plan, I have in public talks pointed out that this is, underneath it all, a battle between those people who believe that man is something more than just an educated animal and those who believe he is nothing else. That is exactly what it is. It is atheism against some kind of religion.

And I believe that we should do our very best to get people to feel the way we do, because along with this underlying basic fact is this: religion ordinarily tries to find a peaceful solution to problems.

So, therefore, I think it goes hand in hand, and I would certainly like to see every pulpit take some cognizance of this problem; I really do.

Q. Marvin L. Arrowsmith, Associated Press: Mr. President, Leonard Hall told us the other day that he had discussed campaign plans with you. Are you in a position to say yet just how much travel you may be able to do in the fall?

THE PRESIDENT. No. He has never discussed it in that much detail with me, Mr. Arrowsmith. He merely said that, by and large, he doesn't propose or suggest that I do what I called "barn-storming" or "whistle-stopping," not at all.

Q. J. Anthony Lewis, New York Times: Mr. President, along the line of Mrs. Craig's question, do you have any plans to mobilize religious or other leaders of the South to your point of view of moderation and progress on the segregation question?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I just mentioned that just now. I said that is one thing that Billy Graham teaches not only abroad, he teaches it among ourselves. Frankly, I believe that the pulpits do have a very great responsibility here.

This is a very tough one, and people have to search their own hearts if we are going to get a decent answer and keep going ahead.

Now, let's don't try to think of this as a tremendous fight that is going to separate Americans and get ourselves into a nasty mess. Let's try to think of how can we make progress and keep it going and not stop it. Now that, I believe, the pulpits can help on.

Q. Edward P. Morgan, American Broadcasting Company: Mr. President, a number of prominent southern conservative Democrats supported you actively in 1952, and many of these since have indicated their defiance of the Supreme Court's decision on segregation. In view of what you said just a moment ago, would you accept such support in '56?

THE PRESIDENT. I don't believe they expressed their defiance. I believe they expressed their belief that it was in error, and they have talked about using legal means to circumvent or to get along, whatever the expression they have used.

I do not believe that anyone, the ones that I know, have used the words "defy the Supreme Court," because when we carry this to the ultimate, remember that the Constitution, as interpreted by the Supreme Court, is our basic law.

The one thing is, though, the basic law appears to change, as I pointed out last week. It was one thing in 1896, and it is a very greatly different thing now.

So, there are emotions, very deep emotions, connected with this problem. These people have, of course, their free choice as to what they want to do.

As far as I am concerned, I am for moderation, but I am for progress; that is exactly what I am for in this.

Q. Paul Niven, WTOP News: Sir, you advocated in your state of the Union message home rule for the District of Columbia. A bill to that effect has passed the Senate, but is bogged down, as such bills often are, in the House District Committee. Do you have any hopes it will come through at this session?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I couldn't express an opinion on it at this moment, because that is one that has not come to my attention lately. I would have to look it up. But I will.

Merriman Smith, United Press: Thank you, Mr. President.

NOTE: President Eisenhower's eighty-third news conference was held in the Executive Office Building from 10:31 to 11:05 o'clock on Wednesday morning, March 21, 1956. In attendance: 212.

63 ¶ Letter to Senator H. Alexander Smith Concerning the Problems of Older Persons.

March 21, 1956

Dear Senator Smith:

Your concern about the future for older persons in our society is shared by me and by large numbers of our citizens.

The first half of this century has witnessed phenomenal improvements in the health of our citizens and equally striking increases in our productive capacity and in our standard of living. These are the achievements of a free and prosperous society. They have also profoundly altered many of our ways of life.

One of the most significant changes that has taken place is the marked extension of the years of our life expectancy—it has doubled since our country was founded. Our nation now must learn to take advantage of the full potential of our older citizens—their skills, their wisdom, and their experience. We need those traits fully as much as we need the energy and boldness of youth.

In considering the changed circumstances presented by the lengthening life span, we must recognize older persons as individuals—not a class—and their wide differences in needs, desires, and capacities. The great majority of older persons are capable of continuing their self-sufficiency and usefulness to the com-

munity if given the opportunity. Our task is to help in assuring that these opportunities are provided.

All of our people, I believe, share the same objectives in this regard: (1) to help make it possible for older persons who desire and are able to work to continue their productive lives through suitable gainful employment; (2) to remove the fear of destitution in the later years; (3) to stimulate the construction of housing and the provision of living arrangements suited to the needs and preferences of older people; (4) to improve health during the later years through research into the aging process and the causes of chronic disease, by making health services more readily available, and by better nutrition; and (5) to help encourage, within our communities, increased opportunities for participation by older persons in civic affairs and voluntary services, and for sharing in the educational, recreational, social, and spiritual life of the community.

Obviously the Federal Government alone cannot and should not undertake to meet all these needs. Where assistance is needed, much of the initiative is rightly being taken by the States and communities, and by families, employers, labor organizations, voluntary groups, and religious bodies throughout the country.

The Federal Government can, however, be a helpful partner in many ways. For example, broadened and increased social security benefits lessen the fear of destitution on the part of our older citizens. Helping to keep the value of the retirement dollar stable has tremendous significance for them. Increased employment opportunities for older persons, in recognition of their desire and continuing capacity for productive work, add to their security and their sense of worth to society. Improved facilities for the promotion of health and for care and rehabilitation contributes to our older citizens' peace of mind and physical well-being. All of these things have been and are being accomplished by or with the help of the Federal Government. They represent significant steps toward improvement of the circumstances of

older persons, and help make it possible for most older persons to meet their needs on their own.

With respect to current planning in the field of aging, the Administration is working actively and on a coordinated basis. Our basic approach has been (1) to place maximum emphasis on individual freedom and responsibility, and (2) to seek maximum utilization of existing programs and agencies. The sum total of the budget and legislative proposals for next year permits a comprehensive approach toward meeting the challenge of aging in our population. These plans have been developed by the several Departments and Agencies which have long had programs benefiting older persons.

In order to insure full coordination of the activities of these Departments and Agencies, I am establishing shortly a Federal Council on Aging. This Council, comprised of representatives of 12 Departments and Agencies, will be of great value in achieving a more effective Government-wide approach to the needs of our older citizens.

The Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare, in collaboration with other Departments and Agencies, has prepared, at my request, a memorandum on Federal activities and plans in the field of aging. I am sure you will be interested in this memorandum, and I am enclosing a copy for your information.

Sincerely,

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

NOTE: The President wrote in response to Senator Smith's letter of July 12 asking for a statement of his views. Mr. Smith was ranking minority member of the Senate Committee on Labor and Public Welfare. The Senator's letter and the memorandum mentioned by the President,

entitled "Recent and Proposed Actions of the Federal Government Affecting Older Persons" and dated March 19, 1956, were released with the President's letter.

For the establishment of the Federal Council on Aging, see Item 74.

64 ¶ Letter to Charles E. Wilson, Secretary of
Defense, on the Hoover Commission
Recommendations. *March 22, 1956*

[Released March 22, 1956. Dated March 20, 1956]

Dear Mr. Secretary:

I have read with much satisfaction your letter of March 14 and the accompanying comments of your Department on the recommendations contained in the Hoover Commission Report on the Business Organization of the Department of Defense. Because so large a proportion of the recommendations contained in the reports of the Hoover Commission are applicable to the Department of Defense, I have been eager to receive your report.

Manifestly, the task of giving full and careful consideration to the many detailed recommendations was in itself a substantial undertaking. It has been evident to me from our many conversations on this subject that the Department of Defense approached this task energetically, that the inquiry was carefully organized, and that all of the recommendations were being considered in a highly constructive spirit. I have no doubt that this study involved the most intensive self-scrutiny of the operations of the Department of Defense that has been undertaken in many years. The steps which you have taken thus far are most encouraging. They will assuredly be reflected in the improved operation and effectiveness of the Department of Defense. The process of self-analysis, however, is a never ending one. I am sure that further benefits from the work of the Hoover Commission will be realized.

Your report gives me special satisfaction because it permits me to acknowledge, on the basis of tangible accomplishment, the great debt which our Nation owes to Mr. Hoover and the many other distinguished citizens who were associated with him in this great undertaking. They developed a set of constructive recom-

mendations that will be of lasting benefit to our country. All of those who worked with him and with Mr. Charles Hook, under whose leadership this thorough-going study of the Department of Defense was conducted, can take pride in a very notable accomplishment.

I hope that you will communicate to the Service Secretaries of your Department my great interest in the extensive program that you have worked out and my earnest desire that it be effectively implemented. In due course, I should like to review this program with you in the light of the major management goals to which the Hoover Commission addressed itself.

Sincerely,

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

NOTE: Secretary Wilson's letter points out that 19 of the Hoover Commission reports affected the Department of Defense, containing in all some 332 separate recommendations, and that each was made the subject of careful study by the military departments and by the appropriate functional Assistant Secretaries of Defense before final consideration

by the Secretary. Although in some instances the Department "felt it advisable to use different methods to attain the same goals," Mr. Wilson adds that "we concur entirely or substantially in 85 percent of the total 332 recommendations."

The text of Secretary Wilson's letter was released by the White House.

65 ¶ Letter to President Mirza of Pakistan on the
Occasion of the Celebration of Republic Day.

March 22, 1956

[Released March 22, 1956. Dated March 20, 1956]

Dear Mr. President:

On the occasion of Pakistan's establishment as a Republic within the Commonwealth, I send my greetings and best wishes, as well as those of the people of the United States, to you and through you to the people of Pakistan. The United States will be represented at the attendant ceremonies by the United States Ambassador to Pakistan and by a Special Representative, the Honorable Jefferson Caffery, one of our most distinguished citizens.

The inauguration of Pakistan's constitution represents an important milestone in Pakistan's development as a modern, democratic state, responsive to the needs and aspirations of its people. The long efforts of Pakistan's leaders in drafting a constitution based on democratic principles have culminated in well-deserved success. Because of the close ties of friendship between our countries, the people of the United States are particularly happy to send expressions of good will on this memorable day in Pakistan's history.

I am confident that under your inspiring leadership Pakistan will continue to make progress in advancing the welfare of its people.

May I express my good wishes for success in these worthy endeavors.

Sincerely,

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

66 ¶ Letter to William A. Greene, President,
Crusade for Freedom. *March 27, 1956*

[Released March 27, 1956. Dated March 23, 1956]

Dear Mr. Greene:

The captive European peoples behind the Iron Curtain—Poles, Czechoslovaks, Bulgarians, Rumanians, Albanians, and residents of the Baltic States—are constantly bombarded by Communist propaganda designed to break their will to resist and destroy their hope for a better future.

In the continuing work of combating such propaganda, Radio Free Europe, the radio arm of the Crusade for Freedom, plays a major and effective role. Day in and day out its broadcasts extend the hand of friendship and hope to the people behind the Curtain, assuring them that their plight has not been forgotten by the free world and fortifying their devotion to liberty.

To the National Committee for a Free Europe, I extend congratulations on this and the other valuable activities of the organization, with my best wishes for success in enlisting, through the Crusade for Freedom, the support of the American people. I am confident they will respond generously and thus forward this vital work for the cause of freedom and peace.

Sincerely,

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

NOTE: Mrs. Eisenhower handed the President's letter to Mr. Greene during a ceremony at the White House.

67 ¶ Letter Accepting Resignation of Douglas McKay as Secretary of the Interior.

March 29, 1956

[Released March 29, 1956. Dated March 28, 1956]

Dear Mr. Secretary:

It is with profound personal regret that I accept your resignation as Secretary of the Interior, effective April fifteenth.

While I am reluctant to forego your valuable assistance as a member of the Cabinet, I understand your purpose and I salute your determination to bring the facts pertaining to this Administration before your fellow citizens of Oregon.

Under your guidance and with your enthusiastic leadership, the Department of the Interior has ably met its responsibilities in carrying forward the essential programs designed to assure orderly development and wise use of our natural resources, in accord with sound conservation principles.

Our mission has not been completed. While we have made significant progress in the past three years, much remains to be done before the aims of this Administration will have been fully met.

As a Cabinet member you have helped shape our programs for the benefit of 166 million Americans. Your counsel in these matters has been of inestimable value. Your knowledge of natural resource conservation and management, gained through long years of experience in private life and as a public official, has served the nation well during the period you have been Secretary of the Interior. I have no doubt that it will continue to be of benefit to your State and the nation in the years to come.

I am sure that there are many who share with me a sense of loss at your departure and who join me in extending every good wish

as you undertake this new phase of your distinguished public career.

With warm personal regard,

Sincerely,

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

NOTE: Secretary McKay's letter, dated March 27, 1956, follows:

My dear Mr. President:

Because I am convinced that I can best serve the Nation and you at the present time by returning to Oregon and carrying to the people of my state certain issues and principles in which we both believe, I respectfully ask that you accept my resignation as Secretary of the Interior, effective April 15, 1956.

I leave your administration with the most profound admiration for your inspiring leadership. To have served under you has been the most cherished and rewarding experience of my life.

I am grateful for the opportunity you have afforded me to serve the people of our country by carrying forward the vital programs for wise use and conservation of our natural resources. One of the most important pledges you have made to the American people is to assure that

these programs would be carried out in accord with our fundamental traditions. I am proud of the efforts and the accomplishments of the Department of the Interior in fulfilling this challenging assignment.

Special words of tribute are due the members of my staff and my fellow workers in the Department, each one of whom has offered me his wholehearted aid and cooperation through the many months we have shared these common tasks and objectives.

In the months to come, you may be sure that I will strive to further the ideals and objectives of your administration so that the great work which has thus been started will go on to the shining goals which you have set.

If ever I can be of service to you in any way, I hope you will not hesitate to call upon me.

God bless you.

Faithfully yours,

DOUGLAS MCKAY

68 ¶ Letter to the Reverend Edward L. R. Elson, Chairman, Three Hours Observance of Good Friday. *March 29, 1956*

[Released March 29, 1956. Dated March 23, 1956]

Dear Dr. Elson:

To the individual Christian, Good Friday is an occasion for intensifying his faith and renewing his recognition of the worth of humility and sacrifice. But because it is a day which commemorates an event central to Christianity, it is of significance to all throughout the free world who strive to uphold the values of a civilization in which the Christian heritage is of immeasurable importance.

As in years past, therefore, this year's observance of Good Friday in the churches of Washington and of communities throughout the land will surely strengthen Americans in their endeavors to live as Christian citizens in their relationships with their fellow men. And in many nations, here and abroad, the observance will fortify the hearts of men and women of good will by deepening their understanding of those spiritual values which guide them in their quest for a just peace and for a better life for human beings everywhere on earth.

Sincerely,

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

69 ¶ Letter to LeRoy Collins, Governor of Florida, in Response to a Proposal for a Conference of Southern Governors. *March 31, 1956*

Dear Governor Collins:

Your telegram of March twenty-second, in which you suggest that a conference of Southern Governors and Attorneys General

be called by me to review "the South's present problems in the whole field of racial relations," has had my thoughtful attention.

I am deeply cognizant of the difficult adjustments confronting some localities in complying with the school decision of the Supreme Court. It seems to me, however, that the progress already made in certain regions of the South before and since this decision is a clear indication that we can look forward to even greater progress if we can look to moderate and responsible leadership supported by a spirit of patience on the part of all of our people.

As you and your associates are well aware, the recommendation I have already made to the Congress requesting the creation of a bipartisan commission to study and make recommendations in this area has not yet been accepted. It is my belief that this commission could provide the means for helpful discussion, and the restoration of a clearer understanding on the part of all of our people of the real nature of the problems you mention.

I am still hopeful that the Congress will act favorably upon my suggestion. However, should they decline, I will have to consider other types of conferences, including the kind you suggest. I trust that the responsibilities that lie primarily with State and local governments, as indeed the responsibilities of the Federal government, may continue to be accepted, understood, and discharged by every official with an understanding of the deep human values which underlie this problem.

Sincerely,

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

NOTE: Governor Collins' telegram was not included in the release.

70 ¶ Exchange of Messages Between the
President and the President of Mexico Following
Meeting at White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia.
April 2, 1956

His Excellency
Adolfo Ruiz Cortines
President of Mexico

I am deeply grateful for the kind message which you so thoughtfully sent me on your return to Mexico City from White Sulphur Springs. It was a source of great satisfaction to me that you and the Prime Minister of Canada found it possible to join me in our recent informal meeting and that you gave me the opportunity to renew our personal friendship. I feel sure that such contact will further strengthen the friendly ties which have so long and happily been maintained through the usual diplomatic interchange.

In extending my every wish for your continued well-being, I renew to Your Excellency the assurances of my personal consideration and highest esteem.

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

NOTE: President Ruiz Cortines' message, dated March 29, follows:

His Excellency
Dwight D. Eisenhower
President of the United States of America

On returning to my country I have the honor to convey to Your Excellency the expression of my deep satisfaction at the friendly personal contacts which upon your happy initiative we have just had at White Sulphur Springs and which inaugu-

rate an era of personal relationship between the American Chiefs of State to the benefit of our countries. I take particular pleasure also in expressing to you my sincere gratitude for the innumerable manifestations which I received of your very cordial hospitality and your sincere and wholehearted friendship. I beg Your Excellency to accept the assurance of my cordial consideration and sincere regards.

ADOLFO RUIZ CORTINES

71 ¶ Exchange of Messages Between the
President and the Prime Minister of Canada
Following Meeting at White Sulphur Springs,
West Virginia. *April 2, 1956*

[Released April 2, 1956. Dated March 31, 1956]

Dear Mr. Prime Minister:

Thank you for your warm and thoughtful letter on our meeting with the President of Mexico at White Sulphur Springs.

I hope you enjoyed the occasion as much as I did, and I am confident that all three of us profited from the friendly and informal talks that we had. These talks will surely bring even closer the intimate relations between our three countries.

With warm regard,

Sincerely,

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER.

NOTE: The Prime Minister's message, dated March 28, follows:

Dear Mr. President:

Immediately on my return I want you to know how much I enjoyed our informal meeting and how delighted I was to see you looking so well and in such good spirits.

We had a pleasant, smooth flight

home and arrived in Ottawa at 3 p. m.

Thank you for affording me the opportunity of the talks with you and the President of Mexico and may you continue to enjoy your present good health.

With warm personal regards, I am,

Yours sincerely,

LOUIS ST. LAURENT

72 ¶ Statement by the President Upon Signing Bills Concerning the School Milk Program, the Eradication of Brucellosis, and the Tax on Gasoline Used on Farms. *April 2, 1956*

I HAVE TODAY approved H. R. 8320 and H. R. 8780.

H. R. 8320 authorizes an expansion and extension of the Special School Milk Program and a continuation of the Federal-State cooperative program to eradicate bovine brucellosis.

In the year and a half that the Special School Milk Program has been in operation, we have seen a remarkable increase in milk drinking by school children. This forward-looking program greatly benefits the health of our children and helps build a sturdier generation of young Americans. By increasing the consumption of dairy products, it also helps build markets for our farmers. This program is an excellent example of how we can make constructive use of our nation's abundance by developing expanded outlets. H. R. 8320 furthers this vital effort by providing an addition of \$10 million to the \$50 million previously authorized for the Special School Milk Program during this fiscal year. It looks to the future by extending the program for two more years, and authorizes use of funds up to \$75 million a year to expand the program to more schools and more children.

H. R. 8320 also sustains the efforts to eradicate bovine brucellosis. It authorizes the use of an additional \$2 million of Federal funds for this fiscal year and \$20 million a year for the next 2 years to continue the Federal-State cooperative program in this field. Not only does this disease cost cattle producers an estimated \$50 million every year in losses of meat and milk, but it remains a threat to human health in the form of undulant fever. Considerable progress has already been made since the stepped-up eradication program authorized by the Congress for the years 1955 and 1956 was inaugurated. Three States—Maine, New

Hampshire, and North Carolina—are modified certified brucellosis-free and many other States are expected to reach that status within the next two years. With continued emphasis on speeding up the cooperative effort, we can hope to move forward county by county and State by State until this disease is brought completely under control throughout the nation.

H. R. 8780 relieves farmers of the Federal tax on gasoline used on the farm.

Agriculture requires billions of gallons of gasoline annually in producing food and fiber. One of the prime needs of our farmers, faced with a severe cost-price squeeze, is lower production costs per unit of output. This is important to agriculture and all our people. Relieving the farmer of the Federal tax on purchases of gasoline used on the farm will lower production costs and help alleviate the cost-price squeeze.

These two bills are parts of the 9-point program I sent to the Congress on January 9 of this year. They constitute an important step forward in our agricultural program.

The next step is to get a good farm bill and to get it promptly.

NOTE: As enacted, H. R. 8320 is 466 (70 Stat. 87). For the 9-point Public Law 465, 84th Congress (70 program, see Item 6. Stat. 86); H. R. 8780 is Public Law

73 ¶ Memorandum of Disapproval of Bill for the Relief of Ashot and Ophelia Mnatzakanian.

April 2, 1956

I HAVE WITHHELD approval of H. R. 3963, "For the relief of Ashot Mnatzakanian and Ophelia Mnatzakanian."

The bill would grant permanent residence immigration status to the beneficiaries. Mr. Mnatzakanian, a 35 year old native and citizen of Iran, entered the United States in 1951 as an exchange student under one of the programs authorized by the

United States Information and Educational Exchange Act of 1948. His wife, a 25 year old native of Russia and citizen of Iran, last entered the United States in 1952 as a visitor. Both beneficiaries last resided in Iran.

In principle, H. R. 3963 is similar to S. 143, a bill for the relief of Kurt Glaser, which I returned without my approval on June 3, 1955. In my message to the Senate at that time, I indicated my belief that we can maintain our exchange programs as effective instruments for promoting international understanding and good will only if both the participants and the United States observe the conditions of the exchange. When there are circumstances of undue hardship, possible jeopardy to safety of the individual, or other unique equities in behalf of an individual, there may be reason to set aside the principle that exchange personnel should return home. Except in such cases, the return rule is necessary to protect the purposes of the exchange program.

This government undertakes, at the expenditure of considerable effort and funds, the designation of private exchange programs as a means of promoting the objectives of the Educational Exchange Act. To the extent that foreign nationals are able to avoid the obligations they assume under the exchange program, these government funds and efforts are wasted, and other aliens are encouraged to use the exchange program as an avenue to immigration. I believe that this is both unsound and unfair.

In the case of Mr. Mnatzakanian and his wife, there is no valid reason shown for setting aside the principle that exchange personnel should return home. Although Mr. Mnatzakanian's two minor children were born in the United States and are dependent upon him, he appears capable of supporting them wherever they may be. Under the circumstances, therefore, I feel it is my duty to withhold approval of this bill. At the same time I reiterate my previous recommendation that the Congress enact a clear statutory requirement that exchange personnel return home and

remain there for a minimum period before being eligible to re-enter the United States for permanent residence.

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

74 ¶ Memorandum Concerning Establishment
and Functions of the Federal Council on Aging.

April 3, 1956

[Released April 3, 1956. Dated April 2, 1956]

Memorandum to: Secretary of the Treasury, Secretary of the Interior, Secretary of Agriculture, Secretary of Commerce, Secretary of Labor, Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare, Director of the Office of Defense Mobilization, Chairman of the United States Civil Service Commission, Administrator of Veterans Affairs, Housing and Home Finance Administrator, Administrator of the Small Business Administration, Director of the National Science Foundation

I desire to establish on a broader and more permanent basis the present Interdepartmental Working Group on Aging.

The marked rise in the number of older persons in our population has a continuing and fundamental impact on our society. Scientific advances in the field of health and the increased productivity of farms and factories have brought the blessings of long life and prosperity to the American people as a whole. The added years which most of our population can expect should be years of health, usefulness and contentment for the individual, and a source of strength to the Nation.

In considering the changed circumstances presented by the lengthening life span, we must recognize older persons as individuals—not a class—and their wide differences in needs, desires, and capacities. The great majority of older persons are capable of continuing their self-sufficiency and usefulness to the

community if given the opportunity. Our task is to help in assuring that these opportunities are provided.

To achieve this, and to assure that our older citizens are able to participate fully and effectively in the life of the community, emphasis should be placed on improvement in such areas as:

1. Preservation of physical and mental health, and rehabilitation
2. Income maintenance
3. Employment and retirement
4. Housing, living arrangements and family relationships
5. Education, civic participation, and recreation.

Within these fields lie new opportunities and responsibilities for greater participation by all our social institutions—secular and religious organizations, and local, State and Federal Government.

In the Federal Government, activities and programs benefiting older persons are conducted in a number of agencies which administer health, welfare, housing, employment, and other programs affecting the population as a whole. These departments and agencies are charged with the basic responsibilities and have a wealth of experience and expert staff in their respective fields. They must continue to carry on their basic responsibilities. To supplement their efforts, there is a further need for coordinated policy development, planning and programming so that the departments and agencies can work together toward common objectives with a minimum of duplication and waste effort.

To this end, I request that each of you designate a representative from your own Department or Agency to act with the other representatives so designated as a Federal Council on Aging. It will be the function of the Council to review existing programs in the light of emerging needs, and make recommendations to the appropriate departments and agencies as to emphases, priorities and provisions for unmet needs. Initiation of new programs and activities, and changes in existing policies will remain the responsibility of heads of the departments or agencies directly affected.

The Council will make its own arrangements as to Chairmanship, meetings, procedures, enlarging membership, and appropriate periodic reports. I request the Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare to provide secretariat services for the Council and be responsible for the initiation of Council meetings and transmittal of reports to me.

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

75 ¶ Remarks at Twelfth Annual Washington Conference for the Advertising Council.

April 3, 1956

I THINK it was last year, gentlemen, when I met with the Advertising Council, that I made the request that the Council would try to do something about extending their good work to helping the government solve some of its problems in the foreign field.

Not only has the record of the past year shown that they took me seriously, but I am particularly delighted that this year they brought some of their bosses along with them so that they can get educated also, because we are talking about one of the most pressing problems with which the government—indeed with which the whole nation is confronted constantly. There is nothing that takes place at home of any great importance—if it is a difficult problem, at least—that is not caused by or at least colored by some foreign consideration.

During this past year, the Advertising Council got together a team of experts and went over the whole series of factors involved in these problems and came up with some very fine suggestions. The one I want to mention particularly—a product of their imagination—was the exhibit of “People’s Capitalism.” I don’t know how many of you have seen it, but to me it is the kind of message that America ought to be carrying abroad. I would have liked to have seen some kind of adjective put between “peo-

ple's" and "capitalism," something of the order of, if not "democratic"—something of the order of "competitive" or something of that kind. But in any event, the exhibit itself shows what the system of capitalism will do for a people. What it has done in this country in a very, very short time, measured by historical units, is a very telling thing.

I actually could hope that the truth that it exemplifies and shows could be brought home to our own people as well as to those abroad for whom it was designed. Because I think too often we forget some of the features of our own system that have been so responsible for the place this nation has reached. So before I leave that part of what I wanted to say to you, my thanks to the agencies for the time and talent they have contributed and are continuing to contribute through the media—enlisting space and radio and television time—and for the good work of all, particularly to the businessmen supporters of what the Council has been doing, with the government as its principal beneficiary.

Now when we consider this system of which we are so proud, we recognize that like all things human, it is neither perfect nor does it sustain itself forever without the people who are living in it and, as part of it, doing something about it. Internally and externally any form of government, and particularly self-government, is always subject to some kind of attack, particularly successful government that has brought material prosperity in the measure which ours has. Internally we watch that government, we watch it very carefully. We watch particularly the federal government to see that it doesn't transgress into fields from which it should abstain, except only in those cases where the changing miracle of industrial life brings about problems that are not solvable by communities, by private enterprise, or by individuals.

There we try to stick to the old Lincolnian dictum that it is the function of government to do for people those things they cannot do for themselves and to stay out of things in places where the people can do things for themselves. We would hope, therefore, to have wisdom in government to help distinguish this line

beyond which government should not go and yet be courageous in doing those things that it should do.

Likewise, we should hope always for more wisdom in business leadership, not only in the business man and in business management, but in their concert with labor, so that in the individual company or the corporation—particularly the influential ones—we do not make decisions that damage us and the kind of system that we are trying to run. That can easily be done within the corporation just as well as it can within the Congress or within some regulatory commission.

Now, let us turn our eyes abroad. There is an old story about the man in a town who owned the factory on which the living of the community depended. He built a great house on the hill and all the rest of the people lived in the plain below in fairly meager circumstances. The climax of the story was, when things began to go bad, that the man on top found that he was not safe except only as the people below were contented and believed that they were advancing. When they became depressed and lost their morale, and the company began to fail, this man fell further than the others, because he had a greater distance to go.

Within a certain degree, that story has applicability in the world today. The United States cannot live alone—a paragon of prosperity—with all the rest of the world sinking lower and lower in its standards of living.

There are many ways in which we can use our influence to make certain that other peoples recognize the virtues of a free, competitive capitalistic system rather than to take the shortcut—the spurious and false road that is offered them by the communistic ideology.

You see, in many of these less developed areas of the world, there is a very great ambition to industrialize themselves. Now the communist comes along and says: “Well, you see what we were forty years ago? Look what communism has done for us. And today we can bring to you this steel mill or help you with this dam, or do this or that.”

There is a very great appeal, because of the very rapid transformation that on the surface, at least, and under forms of dictatorship, has been accomplished in Russia. The man who is listening to the story doesn't understand that underneath this great facade of industrialization there is slavery, human misery, rather than human happiness—no opportunity for a man to realize his own spiritual, moral, physical and economic aspirations through his own efforts. He obeys. He is regimented. But they don't see that. As a matter of fact, it is not of importance at the moment, because it is only in such a society as ours, based upon the dignity of man, that the importance of that kind of thing to humans is recognized and catered to.

And so we must carry not only a material message to the world of what the kind of enterprise we have—the kind of system—can do for a people. We must carry those moral values, spiritual values of the worth of man—what he is entitled to as an individual. We must say not merely what this or that state would do if they would follow that line, because I think it is not to be denied, if you would give the communistic system to any backward country, with a complete dictator who could direct everything without question, he could make, on the short run, more rapid progress than could we by the cooperative method that is inherent in democracy.

So I think that we must realize that unless we do these things in the world, someone else will do them through false doctrines. And we finally will reach more and more that place where we are isolated from the rest of the world, with the whole world in a position possibly of envy and then of hatred, open antagonisms, that will reflect itself in first, let us say, refusal to trade, then breaking off relations and finally and ultimately in a very, very serious thing.

There is plenty of time for us to do it if we start now and keep doing it. That is the reason that I am so delighted that the Advertising Council has directed itself in its efforts along this path.

Governmental officials are busy. They are constantly putting

out “fires.” They are on the Hill answering why they need this money or that money, or sometimes why they don’t need this or that that someone is trying to give to them. This is a new phenomenon, and ordinarily applies only to election year.

The need in government is time to think, with the ability of people to do it. Now by the selection of these people of the Advertising Council they are able to supplement the work of government and so to assist it, to point out new, imaginative ways of how the message of America can be carried.

I assure you that that message must be carried, not only in the ways I have indicated, but it must be expressed also in the readiness to help wherever possible, on good, sound business arrangements. Let us not forget for one instant that when we are putting 36 or 37 billion dollars of expenditures every year into arms and armaments, that those arms and armaments alone, remember, can never take us forward—they will merely defend what we have got.

But when you talk about something that promotes a business arrangement—trade—when you can talk about something that proposes a better understanding between us and the people of the Mid East or the people of Africa, or anybody else, then you are talking about something constructive, something that yields results over the years to come. It will not be merely something essentially sterile and negative so far as their capacity for raising human standards is concerned. We will not be merely acting like a policeman to protect what we already have. Of course, protection is necessary. It is just as necessary in this day and time as it can possibly be. But let us don’t make the ignorant, uninformed decision that only in armaments are we going to find the solution of our foreign problems.

And since we have been favored by the system that our forefathers gave us, by the resources that God gave us, by the good fortune we have of having been born and raised here through the finest educational and health systems in the world, and so on, let us use our brains to make certain we sustain our position by help-

ing everybody else to realize their own aspirations and legitimate ambitions, not necessarily in the exact pattern of this country. Of course not. Nobody starts from the same place and no other nation would possibly reach the same end.

But we can preach and show that we believe in the dignity of man, in the independence of nations, the right of people to determine for themselves their own faith. We can help. Every dollar we put into this kind of thing, if it is intelligently spent, is to my mind, in the long run, worth any five we put just in sheer defense because in the long run it is a constructive thing. It is a developing thing, the kind of development America has done at home and which we must help do abroad.

So, all of these words, all of these thoughts, my friends, give you the depth of my sincerity when I say thank you for coming here, thank you for helping. The people that talk to you today will come not merely to give you a briefing of what they are doing, but in doing so would hope that from you they will get reactions—in other words, what would you do?

Government is nothing but individuals. Every one of the individuals in government belongs to you. He is your “boy” in some form or other. You put him there directly or indirectly. So the job is still that of the American people, and I couldn’t conceive of any job in this world being in better hands than that of the American people.

Thank you very much.

NOTE: The exhibit “People’s Capitalism” was prepared for the U. S. Information Agency by the Advertising Council. It is described in the Council’s 1955–56 annual report as an answer to the communist claim that under capitalism the few oppress the many. “The thesis underlying the term . . . is that a new kind of capitalism has evolved in the United States, a capitalism of, by, and for

the people.” After a preview in Washington the overseas exhibit, covering several thousand square feet, opened in Bogota, Colombia, late in the year. Additional showings were scheduled by USIA in Latin America, the Near East, and other areas.

The President spoke at the District Red Cross Building at 11:30 a. m.

76 ¶ Statement by the President on Establishing
the National Committee for the Development of
Scientists and Engineers. *April 3, 1956*

WE IN AMERICA have a unique technological ability to use science for the strengthening of our country's defense against aggression and for the application of our material resources to the improvement of human living. But our technological superiority is now seriously challenged by those who use science for aggression and conquest.

World technological leadership carries the inherent responsibility before the world of using technology to help all peoples achieve a better life through the development of their resources for the good of all mankind. How we do this will require the most intensive effort in all fields of learning. We must nourish those basic roots of our traditions and culture which lie deep in the humanities and the social sciences, and in our fundamental religious conception of the relation of man to his Maker. The attention we here focus on science and engineering will not distract us from continuing our efforts on behalf of all the other important fields of education.

Sometime ago I established a special inter-departmental committee to make an intensive study of the actions which need to be taken in order to improve our present situation with regard to the education and utilization of highly qualified scientists and engineers. The Director of Defense Mobilization served as Chairman of this committee, and working with him were the Secretary of Commerce, the Secretary of Labor, the Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare, the Chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission, the Director of the National Science Foundation, and the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Manpower and Personnel). The special committee recognized that although the Government has a responsibility for increasing the supply and improving the quality of our technological personnel, the basic

responsibility for solution of the problem lies in the concerted action of citizens and citizens' groups organized to act effectively.

At the recommendation of this special committee, I am establishing a National Committee for the Development of Scientists and Engineers, comprised of representatives of major citizens' organizations to foster the development of more highly qualified technological manpower.

Second, I am directing all departments and agencies of the Government to cooperate fully with the work of the National Committee and, at the same time, to re-evaluate and strengthen in every appropriate way their own activities which can contribute to the development and effective utilization of scientists and engineers. The National Science Foundation will provide staff services for the Committee and provide leadership to other departments and agencies in carrying forward activities which will contribute to a solution of the problem.

An imaginative and vigorous effort on the part of citizens' organizations and the Government can, I am confident, maintain for us the technological superiority upon which our economy and our national security so critically depend.

77 ¶ Letter to Dr. Howard L. Bevis Appointing Him Chairman of the National Committee for the Development of Scientists and Engineers.

April 3, 1956

Dear Dr. Bevis:

For the last several years there has been a growing awareness within the Government and among private citizens in general that as a result of our continuing shortages of highly qualified scientists and engineers we are running the danger of losing the position of technological pre-eminence we have long held in the world.

Because of my own concern with this situation, I established some time ago a special inter-departmental committee to make an intensive study of the situation. This committee has now made recommendations to me on actions which might appropriately be taken by the Federal Government to improve our relative position.

At the same time, the special committee pointed out that the problem of increasing our supply of qualified scientists and engineers cannot be solved by Government alone. The committee wisely recognized that the problem required for its solution the powerful and concerted action of citizens and citizens' groups organized to act effectively.

As its major recommendations, therefore, the special committee urged that I establish a National Committee for the Development of Scientists and Engineers. They proposed that this be an action group, representative of major citizens organizations concerned with the education, training and utilization of scientific and engineering personnel. This group would consider ways of fostering the further development of scientists and engineers and would in all appropriate ways take action to promote a substantial growth in the supply of scientific and technological manpower.

I have accepted the recommendation of the special committee and I am establishing the National Committee which has been proposed. It is my hope that the Committee will:

1. Assist the Federal Government in identifying the problems associated with the development of more highly qualified scientists and engineers.
2. Enlist the cooperation of all interested individuals and groups in analyzing the problem and developing programs to deal with it, and to take the lead in coordination of interested organizations outside the Federal Government.
3. Make available to all interested organizations information on effective ways of overcoming the obstacles to the training of more qualified scientists and engineers.

4. Publicize the problem and possible solutions in order to stimulate widespread public understanding and support.

5. Provide me, from time to time, with a report of progress.

It gives me a great deal of satisfaction to appoint you Chairman of this Committee. Under your leadership, I am convinced that this group can make a major and timely contribution to the economic and social welfare of the nation and to the national security as well.

Sincerely,

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

78 ¶ The President's News Conference of *April 4, 1956.*

THE PRESIDENT. Good morning. Please be seated.

Well, I am going to make a little talk this morning, but I don't think it will take more than a minute or two.

This is the seventh anniversary of NATO, and as we stand today looking at Western Europe and the great changes that have come about in that time, and for much of which NATO has been responsible, I think it is one of those things that was conceived among free nations, implemented, and has really proved its worth.

It was organized for security, for defensive reasons. It has no offensive capabilities and is not intended for any such purposes, and it would be wrong to limit our thinking about it in terms of the military.

It has proved itself a fine agency for bringing the greater unity of thought among the people of the Western world. I think that today we are in better position because of its existence.

You will recall that I was identified with this first military organism, going to Europe in January of 1951, remaining there till June of '52, and the distance that it has come in its defensive capabilities since that time is probably more apparent to me than

it is to most, because in the single important item of morale—morale has gone up. The armaments have been accumulated and integrated into forces. We have expanded in terms of nations. When I first went there, of course, Greece and Turkey were not members. They now are. In every way I think it is one of those organizations brought into being under the authority of the United Nations, in complete consonance with the purposes of the United Nations, and has done a splendid job for all of us.

I think that is my speech.

Q. Marvin Arrowsmith, Associated Press: Mr. President, apparently on the basis of a somewhat heavier Democratic vote than in 1952, Senator Kefauver is contending that the outcome in the Wisconsin primary reflects great unrest among the farmers so far as administration policy is concerned. Do you believe that the Republicans have cause for worry on the farm issue in the November election?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, first of all I am not going to try to interpret the Wisconsin primaries. Actually, I haven't seen the final figures, but I am told that a very heavy turnout was realized in view of the very bad weather conditions that existed during a great part of the day over a great part of the State.

So I think that is a matter for gratification to all of us.

Now, the farm program: it would be, of course, idle to say or to intimate that the farmers have no problem. They have many, many problems. They have had them for a long time, ever since rigid price supports, too long continued, began to build up surpluses and make it almost impossible to work our way out of the problem without seemingly getting in deeper.

Because of the seriousness of the problem, with the Secretary of Agriculture I worked out a very comprehensive program and put it in as quickly after this session began as I possibly could, calling attention to the fact that farm income having dropped off steadily, I think, for the past 7 years had gotten to a position we must do something about it, and asked for immediate action on that bill.

Well, it's not yet been brought up, and as we know from the history of the legislation, there have been so many amendments—some of them clumsy, others even worse—attached, that whether or not it would help farmers would be problematical.

We are looking for a bill that will help them over the long term and which would help them now.

Now, the soil bank portion of the program which we originally thought would help a great deal this year probably can't, because it is getting too late. The planting season is right upon us, and you can't take the land out once it has been planted to the spring crops. But we certainly can get a good one so that before the next wheat planting season this fall starts, we will have it.

Now we come down there to the specific question. Of course, farmers have a right to be somewhat bewildered. I think the most of them, though, are very sensible men and know that this administration is trying to do something that is for the good of them, doing it through the medium of being good for the United States of America. If it isn't good for the whole United States, the farmers won't have it long, so we've got to do it on that basis.

Q. Charles S. von Fremd, CBS News: Secretary of State Dulles said yesterday that the repudiation of Stalin might be the first step in the reformation of Russia. Do you believe that there is a possibility that the Soviet leaders, like the party boss, Khrushchev, might be undergoing a basic change of heart?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I don't know exactly what the Secretary of State said, so let's not attempt to have me commenting on what he said.

I know that he and I are in agreement that there is no discernible basic change in the fundamental purposes of communism, world revolution and the so-called dictatorship of the proletariat through the Cominform.

Now, the repudiation of Stalin: if it were only in recognition of dissatisfaction among the great masses living behind the Iron Curtain, it might be, you might say, the beginning of a forced

reformation of some kind. Actually, I believe as of today the leaders of communism still believe the same things they have believed since the days of Lenin.

Q. Kenneth M. Scheibel, Gannett Newspapers: Mr. President, getting back to the farm bill a minute, are you willing to compromise on the price support issue to get the soil bank through Congress?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I can't comment specifically on that. The whole bill has to be in front of me before I can say a word.

Now, I have never been one to believe that you must hold up good things in order to attain perfection. You will recall the old German saying, "The best is always the enemy of the good."

We have got to get something good, and in its overall effect it must not be bad. That's all I have to say about it.

Q. Chalmers M. Roberts, Washington Post and Times Herald: Mr. President, have you had any correspondence which has not been made public with either Premier Bulganin or Marshal Zhukov?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I haven't had any recent communications from either, but I think there were some of the letters that were never actually published. I think that I always told that I had a communication and I had answered it, but I think there were communications where the texts were not actually made public. But that's been some time back, and as far as I know they would never be made public, they are purely personal.

Q. Mr. Roberts: The substance, though, has been made public?

THE PRESIDENT. The substance is well known of any letters that I can recall.

Q. Merriman Smith, United Press: Mr. President, there has been a persistent report from Great Britain that you have been in communication with Sir Anthony Eden concerning the Middle East. Have you, sir?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, ever since I have been in this office I have been, on a personal basis, in communication with the Prime

Minister of Britain, first Mr. Churchill and now Mr. Eden. They are both, as you know, close wartime friends of mine. I can't recall how long it has been since I have had a letter from the Prime Minister. I should think a couple of weeks.

But nearly always our communications have something to say about the Mid-East, because it is a problem that is with us both all the time, and if it would be omitted, it would be almost noticeable.

But those communications do not represent in any way or take the place of normal diplomatic exchanges that bring about a meeting of minds of governments. They are just expressing, between ourselves, personal views.

Q. Rowland Evans, Jr., New York Herald Tribune: Governor Adams says that Democratic leadership in Congress is deliberately frustrating your legislative program because they don't want to see any appreciable accomplishments, as he put it, by your administration in this election year. Do you believe that yourself, sir? If so, could you analyze it just for a second with us?

THE PRESIDENT. As you people know, I never attempt to go into other people's motives. They take certain decisions, they perform certain actions, and the results are there for all to see. So I wouldn't even attempt to interpret the motives of anybody that opposes me in anything that is political at all.

However, I want to add this one statement. I don't know under what circumstances Mr. Adams made such a statement, and you would have to go to him for his reasons.

Q. Mr. Evans: All right, sir.

THE PRESIDENT. For myself, I believe that in general the people in the Congress are trying to do what they believe to be best for the United States; that is not to say that at times, in the heat of partisanship, many people can forget that the good of the United States doesn't demand too much of this partisan quarrel.

Q. Peter Lisagor, Chicago Daily News: Mr. President, you said that it would be a mistake to look upon NATO in strictly

military terms. Can you tell us what role you have in mind for NATO—in some other relationship?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, as you know, there is a NATO Council that meets permanently in Paris, and before it come up numerous types of questions that are not only economic but, indeed, often political and social in their character. Because of their study, looking at these problems without any charter covering them at all—what I was trying to get at is that all of us benefit, and I think that understandings are promoted through the existence of NATO and of that Council.

Q. Charles W. Roberts, *Newsweek*: Mr. President, some of us have learned, sir, that several Republican Senators, Senator Bricker, Senator Dirksen, Senators Knowland and Bridges, called on you last week to discuss further the revised Bricker amendment. I wonder if you are any closer to an agreement with them on the terms the amendment should take.

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I don't know that I could answer it, because I think an agreement is a 2-sided sort of affair. I have said from the beginning that to reassure the American people, I would always be willing to see an amendment which stated that no international agreement or any treaty that was in violation of the Constitution could have any force or effect.

Now, as you know, there have been written into this latest version three words: "any provisions of". Those words are under the most earnest study by lawyer groups everywhere. They are advising me, and apparently they are advising Senator Bricker and the rest. Exactly what they mean, it is difficult to say.

But, some morning, if we want to give the entire period to a discussion of this, we might take a few of the hypothetical cases that can arise and decide among ourselves what we ought to do.

I am, as I say, not a lawyer. My stand has not changed. I am ready to give that assurance to the American people, would be glad to do it, but I am not going to do anything that will militate against the opportunity of the executive department to construct and to get before the Congress the kind of treaties that

will serve our country's best interest. I am never going to agree to any diminution of that authority.

Q. Elie Abel, *New York Times*: As a former NATO commander, sir, and now commander in chief, could you tell us whether you believe that the strategic value of Iceland to the NATO alliance has been decreased in recent months with new developments in the Soviet?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I suppose that with every change in technique and technology the strategic value of any locality changes somewhat. That is almost inescapable.

Now, I have not just given my personal attention to a study of this particular question you ask. I would say this: if it has changed, it ought to be something to be studied by the NATO Council and the NATO ministers when they meet, consider the matter, and come to some conclusion.

We do know this: here is a small country of 160,000 people, or something of that kind, and if you have foreign troops stationed there, it is a far more noticeable, therefore possibly a serious matter, than if 10 times that number are stationed in France or somewhere else.

They are our friends, the Icelanders are, there is no question. I have visited them several times, and I think that their problem probably can be worked out.

Q. William McGaffin, *Chicago Daily News*: Could you give us the benefit of your thinking this morning on the Middle East situation as it is today?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I think we have talked about it often, and there has been no radical change this past week.

Q. Mr. McGaffin: Mr. President, there have been reports that the British are pressing your administration to take a firmer line on the Middle East.

THE PRESIDENT. Well, if they have, they haven't pressed me. My views on the Middle East have been very clear, I think. I believe that this is one of the strategically important areas of the world. I believe that its safety, access to it, are both very impor-

tant, first of all to Western Europe, and because they are to Western Europe, that means to the whole free world.

Consequently, we must do everything, first to preserve the peace; and we are going to preserve peace only as we give all of the people in that area opportunity to achieve their legitimate aspirations, economically, socially, and politically.

This becomes a very easy thing to say, it becomes a very difficult thing to do because of the antagonisms and cross-antagonisms. They are not always running even in one direction. They seem to cross here and there. It is a very difficult thing.

Now, if I were just told to take a firmer line, I would have to say, "Firmer line with respect to what, where, when," all the rest of it.

And then I must point out that it is still not an easy one because it is like a stack of jackstraws, every time you touch one you are very apt to move the whole crowd, and equilibrium is to a certain extent destroyed. That is what we don't want.

Q. James B. Reston, *New York Times*: Going back to the NATO question, are the assumptions on which you base NATO sound today, location of bases, and so on, in the light of the atomic bomb? And, secondly, do you foresee that the security brought about by NATO depends upon a permanent establishment of a quarter of a million Americans in Europe?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, of course, when the troop contingent was established there, it was intended to be more of an emergency thing as the European forces were able to build up. You know, also, that there have been many delays in those buildups: French troops taken away by different troubles in Indochina and now in northern Africa—and the northern Africa area is important to NATO—delays in the bringing about of the German contingent, which we once hoped would be started in 1951, and we are a long ways behind that. So these troops have stayed there and they have become, let us say, troops of indefinite tenure although never intended to be permanent, so that the assumption as to how soon their mission would be done has not proved out exactly.

Now, the usefulness of NATO in the light of atomic bombs is, it seems to me, just as strong as ever for this reason: one of the great things of NATO is to make us all feel we are part and parcel of the same defensive security problem. Morale! Morale is the most important thing that a human being has, whether he is tackling a job or whether he is going to war or whether he is trying to gain a peace.

It is the belief in the spirit; and when you know someone is with you, if the people sitting alongside you are ready to support what you say, what you do, you believe together, you have got a strength that is very hard to defeat. It is the strength of a democracy at war.

People complain about democracy always being a disadvantage when they go to war, but you have got this one great thing. Democracy goes to war because it decides to do so. So when the going gets tough, they tend to close up and be stronger and better in this great, important feature of morale than does a dictatorship, which has been forced into war and is a very, very fine organism as long as it has got the force behind it to keep it together. But when that force begins to disintegrate, then the thing goes because there is no other reason for being there.

So I would say that NATO has done a very great thing, as much in the political and moral world, you might say, without having that in its charter whatsoever, as it has in the defensive.

Q. Richard L. Wilson, Cowles Publications: Mr. President, this is probably a variation of the earlier question, but I am trying to make it a little more specific. Inasmuch as you think the soil bank cannot work this year, I wondered if you thought if it were possible to continue 90 percent of parity price supports for one more year only, as some people at the Capitol advocate.

THE PRESIDENT. Well, you say "continue." They went out of the law for the first time in the wheat crop of last year.

Q. Mr. Wilson: I mean by that to renew.

THE PRESIDENT. Yes. Well, as I say, Mr. Wilson, I would not want to make any statement till I saw the whole bill in front of me.

Now there are certain things you know we have done, gotten done in respect to this farm thing. We have got the taxes for other than road use remitted on gas and oil. We have got that brucellosis bill through, and we have got the increased milk bill, for lunches, you know, and so on, through. So certain things have moved.

There is some help and there will be a little help even this year from the soil bank, if we can get it done soon. But the great advantage of having gotten the soil bank through early would have been that long before the crops were planted, farmers had the opportunity of deciding what they would do this year, and making certain of a given amount of income through the putting of these acres into the soil bank.

Now just exactly what I will do, I can repeat only: I am looking for a good bill for farmers, one that makes sense, one that will make sense 5 years from now as well as now. I just am not demanding my own ideas of perfection be met.

Q. Anthony H. Leviero, *New York Times*: Mr. President, I would like to ask about the test of a megaton caliber atomic weapon in the Pacific next month. Are you considering Commissioner Murray's plan to invite representatives of Russia and other countries, and also the Atomic Energy Commission apparently considers it important to have an uncensored report of this explosion, and they have invited 15 newsmen. But a question arises whether that is an adequate number, and I wonder if the White House has considered the problem of coverage.

THE PRESIDENT. I have heard it discussed in front of me, Mr. Leviero, a number of times. But I haven't attempted to make decisions.

You see, there are so many of the scientists from the various sections of the Defense Department and the Science Foundation and the AEC they say have to go in order to be there and do their part in measuring the thing, that you get a very great hotel problem in your ships as you start out. So they told me that any other

representation would have to be very limited. But, of course, we know that at times is necessary.

For example, when the armistice was signed in Europe, there were only, I think, 18—I think I had 963 representatives of the press there at that time—only 18 could go up. I remember that day. They themselves solved it. They drew it by lot, and I suppose that would be the way it would be done.

However, I believe that the time has come to—it has already been here for a long time—but I think we should do our best to let people of the news media see these things and report according to their own impressions and thinking on the thing, and I believe that is what Admiral Strauss is thinking of. He will do his best; I am sure of that.

Q. Earl Mazo, New York Herald Tribune: Sir, are you satisfied with the vote you got in the Wisconsin primary yesterday, and could you analyze the political implications of that primary as you see them, sir?

THE PRESIDENT. You must have been asleep during the first question. [*Laughter*]

I said I have no analysis of that thing. As a matter of fact, there is only this: I am always a little bit astonished when any American puts his cross behind my name for anything. Now, for whoever did it, I thank them for their vote of confidence, and the bigger the number, of course, the greater my thanks.

Q. Richard Harkness, National Broadcasting Company: Mr. President, as a corollary, sir, to your statement on NATO, would you discuss the Russian disarmament plan proposed at London, as compared to our proposal?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, it is useless to try to get into details of such things. These details are put together, and there are conversations that go on for weeks.

I would merely say this: the Russians apparently continue to put down as the most important thing that there be an agreement of some kind before there is any system of determining whether either of us is living up to the agreement.

We insist that we devise the means for determining the degree in which we are carrying out agreements before the agreements themselves take effect. Now, that, you can take it and put it in all its details, but that is the essential difference between the two sides.

Q. Mr. Harkness: Sir, could you go on and discuss the order of the control, or the partial outlawing of nuclear weapons?

THE PRESIDENT. No. I will say this: time and again we proposed, of course, the so-called open sky plan. They proposed the key posts in particular spots, like ports, centers of communication, and other important spots in America.

So I told them that if they would accept ours, we would accept theirs, we would take them both.

Now, our contention is that until this system is worked out, at least in a trial area as a very minimum, and we can see there whether it works, that you can't go and make agreements, for the simple reason that we are determined there be means for deciding what is going on, rather than just a mere signing of the agreement.

Q. Mr. Harkness: May I have one more question right on that point?

THE PRESIDENT. No, I think not.

Q. William M. Blair, New York Times: Mr. President, have you ever seen an atomic bomb or hydrogen bomb go off, and do you have any plans for going to the tests next month?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I don't mind telling you why I haven't. I would think in my strict capacity as commander in chief, I ought to go and see one of these things, but I am trying to prove to the world that my chief interest in the nuclear science is peace. And so I go to every demonstration that I can find of the peaceful uses of the atomic weapon; and I merely don't use the Presidency to publicize the other, I admit, very necessary parts of it. Having talked it all over with my people, I believe it is not an essential that I go, because the reports are very detailed. You know exactly what is going on.

I believe it is not necessary, and I would rather do my part in publicizing the peaceful uses of the atomic science.

Q. Sarah McClendon, *El Paso Times*: Sir, would you order those Marines that were sent over to the Mediterranean and over in that area, would you order them to war, without asking the Congress first?

THE PRESIDENT. I get discouraged sometimes here.

I have announced time and time and time again I will never be guilty of any kind of action that can be interpreted as war until the Congress, which has the Constitutional authority, says so.

Now, I have said this so often that it seems to me almost ridiculous to ask me the question. Look, how can a war be conducted? You have got to have troops, you have got to have draft laws, you have got to have money. How could you conduct a war without Congress? Their Constitutional power is to declare war, and I am going to observe it.

Now, there are times when troops, to defend themselves, may have to, you might say, undertake local warlike acts, but that is not the declaration of war, and that is not going to war, and I am not going to order any troops into anything that can be interpreted as war, until Congress directs it.

Q. Paul Scott Rankine, *Reuters*: Mr. President, going back, if I may, to a previous question of your correspondence with Sir Anthony Eden, the British press gives very great prominence this morning to a report that Sir Anthony has sent you a specific, personal message on the Middle East, reporting on the findings of the British Foreign Secretary during his tour there, and also, according to one report, urging stronger United States support for the Baghdad Pact. There are also reports that you have replied to that message. Can you recall whether your—

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I don't know the time, because as I said before, these matters always come up, and we have had slightly differing viewpoints about America's proper role with respect to certain areas, including the Baghdad Pact. But I don't know; if they are talking about a recent message, I haven't received it yet.

Now, I am certain—I don't want to be held to this for my life—I am certain I haven't had a message from the Prime Minister since some time before I went down to White Sulphur. So I am sure it is no recent thing that they must be talking about. But we have always mentioned the Mid-East back and forth in all of our conversations and talks.

Merriman Smith, United Press: Thank you, Mr. President.

NOTE: President Eisenhower's eighty-fourth news conference was held in the Executive Office Building from 10:30 to 11:03 o'clock on Wednesday morning, April 4, 1956. In attendance: 219.

79 ¶ Veto of Bill for the Relief of Roy Cowan and Others. *April 9, 1956*

To the House of Representatives:

I return herewith, without my approval, H. R. 6421, "For the relief of Roy Cowan and others."

The bill directs the payment of sums aggregating \$276,568 to twenty-eight individuals in settlement of claims for damages based on the flooding of privately-owned lands. The flooding is alleged to have resulted from activities of the Fish and Wildlife Service of the Department of the Interior in the establishment and management of the Lake Alice National Wildlife Refuge in North Dakota.

In my judgment this is a case in which there has been an unfortunate failure in communications between the Executive and Legislative branches of the Government. A subcommittee of the House conducted a hearing on the ground and made a personal inspection of the area and the construction works involved. Although Department of the Interior engineers testified at the hearing, the views of the Department were not presented at the hearing and the report of the Department on the bill apparently was not received in time for consideration before floor action was

taken by the House of Representatives. As a result, the record before me is one of unresolved disagreements of fact and law. Nevertheless, the materials presented by the Department of the Interior convince me that a satisfactory and adequate basis has not been established for appraising the merits and the equity of the claims.

Under the circumstances I believe that I have no choice but to return the bill without my approval, but with my recommendation that the case be handled either by the referral process frequently used in difficult claims cases or, if warranted, by the enactment of a jurisdictional bill which will preserve the rights and proper defenses of the litigants.

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

80 ¶ Exchange of Messages Between the
President and the President of the Philippine
Republic, on Bataan Day. *April 9, 1956*

His Excellency

Ramon Magsaysay

President of the Philippine Republic

I send greetings, on the behalf of the people of the United States, to our friends in the Philippines on this day of memories and dedication. It is fitting that Bataan Day should be the chosen time to commemorate Philippine-American friendship for it reminds us of the unity that was ours in times of stress and trial.

The ensuing fourteen years have brought ever-increasing understanding and cooperation. This year you will mark the tenth anniversary of the independence of your nation. We can be justly proud of the example of international brotherhood which we have provided during the past decade.

Our hearts should be filled with gratitude toward those brave men whom we remember on this day—not only for their service in

war, but for the legacy of courage and inspiration which they left for us to follow in time of peace.

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

NOTE: President Magsaysay's reply, released April 9, 1956, follows:

*The President
The White House*

I am grateful to you for your message commemorating Bataan Day and I wish to reciprocate your cordial greetings. Our two peoples are united by an imperishable bond that was forged in Bataan by the courage and heroism of our soldiers.

We have fought together in war and are cooperating with each other in peace to uphold freedom and democracy. Ours is a friendship based on mutual respect and being on such a firm basis it is an enduring one.

It is my hope that our close collaboration in working for the peace and security of the free world will con-

tinue to demonstrate that whatever inevitable temporary and superficial differences we may have from time to time, they are no barrier to the mutuality of our responsibility to serve the best interests of our respective countries and our common dedication to fight for the democratic ideal.

As we commemorate a historic event which signalizes a spiritual victory over a military defeat I wish to reiterate my people's faith in the righteousness and invincibility of the cause of freedom and human dignity to which we are dedicated.

RAMON MAGSAYSAY

The President's message and President Magsaysay's reply were released at Augusta, Ga.

81 ¶ Letter to the President of the Senate and to the Speaker of the House of Representatives on Improving Military Career Incentives.

April 10, 1956

[Released April 10, 1956. Dated April 9, 1956]

My dear Mr. —————:

The attached letter, addressed to me by the Secretary of Defense, reviews the serious nature of the personnel situation in the

armed forces. It also outlines the major legislative proposals which the Administration has presented to the Congress as a means of improving military career incentives.

I urge that this legislation be enacted. Only when we have created a career military service which can compete with the attractive opportunities available in civilian pursuits will we be able to stop the wasteful losses from our armed forces and attract individuals to those services. We cannot move too soon in our efforts to increase the number and quality of volunteers for long-term career military service in both enlisted and officer ranks.

Sincerely,

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

NOTE: This is the text of identical letters, addressed to the Honorable Richard M. Nixon, President of the Senate, and the Honorable Sam Rayburn, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

The legislative proposals outlined in Secretary Wilson's letter of March 23, 1956, relate specifically to—

1. Servicemen's and veterans' survivor benefits: Includes enactment of H. R. 7089 bringing military personnel into the Old Age and Survivors Insurance System.
2. Dependent medical care: Action by the Senate on the House bill assuring care for the 40 percent of dependents of military personnel presently covered.
3. Regular officer augmentation:

Raising statutory regular officers ceilings in the Army and Air Force, thereby stabilizing these forces and permitting the transfer of experienced reserve officers into the regular components.

4. Career incentives for medical and dental officers and nurses.

5. Standard housing: Legislation providing for occupancy of inadequate public quarters at a reduced rental.

6. Preservation of retirement rights: Extension of authority to retire officers in currently held temporary grades rather than in their permanent grades.

The text of this memorandum is published in House Document 378 (84th Cong., 2d sess.).

[Released April 10, 1956. Dated April 9, 1956]

My dear Mr. ———:

The attached letter, addressed to me by the Secretary of Defense, reviews the serious nature of the personnel situation in the

The bill is self-defeating. The House of Representatives has not yet voted on the bill. The Senate has not yet voted on the bill. The bill is self-defeating. The House of Representatives has not yet voted on the bill. The Senate has not yet voted on the bill.

The bill is self-defeating. The House of Representatives has not yet voted on the bill. The Senate has not yet voted on the bill. The bill is self-defeating. The House of Representatives has not yet voted on the bill. The Senate has not yet voted on the bill. The bill is self-defeating. The House of Representatives has not yet voted on the bill. The Senate has not yet voted on the bill.

I am disappointed that the long delays which this legislation encountered. My first special request in this session of the Congress was for prompt remedial farm legislation. A bill was introduced in January, 1936, with an urgent request for action. It was a program that could bring the government suggestions and criticisms from large numbers of farm people in every type of agricultural region in every section of the country were analyzed and used. It offered no magic panacea but, because we can all agree, there is none. It did strike directly at the heart of the problem of low income of farm people.

The problem is price-depressing surpluses. Excess stocks of certain farm commodities have mounted to market-destroying, price-depressing sizes as a result of low prices and incentives not being continued. Any forward-looking sound program to meet the needs of farm people must remove the burden of these accumulations. They are depressing the farm income by many hundreds of millions of dollars a year. Invoking the rationing of the R. would not only let this situation. It would encourage more surpluses. It would do harm to every agricultural region of the country and to the interests of consumers. That is why farm people are not being good for farmers and fair to all farm people.

The bill is self-defeating. The Soil Bank proposal has been incorporated. This would be constructive, had it not been encumbered by contradictory provisions. The Soil Bank would provide an income incentive to farmers to reduce production temporarily so that surplus stocks might be reduced. Other provisions of this bill, however, would result in an equal or greater incentive to increase production and accumulate more surplus.

Among the provisions which make this bill unacceptable are: (1) the return to war-time rigid 90 percent of parity supports for the basic commodities; (2) dual parity for wheat, corn, cotton, and peanuts; (3) mandatory price supports for feed grains; (4) multiple-price plans for wheat and rice. The effect of these provisions would be to increase the amount of government control and further add to our price-depressing surpluses.

Specific objections relative to each of these provisions may be summarized as follows:

1. Price supports at war-time 90 percent of parity on basic crops were in effect in each year from 1944 through 1954. They were not responsible for the high commodity prices and high farm income of wartime and the immediate postwar years. Prices were then above support levels due to wartime inflation and the insatiable markets associated with war. Neither did 90 percent supports prevent prices from falling as postwar surplus stocks began to accumulate.

Price supports at wartime 90 percent on the six designated basic crops did encourage production of these crops relative to others. At the same time consumption was discouraged and the use of substitutes was stimulated. Market outlets shrank, and surplus accumulations mounted. Acreage controls had to be invoked, thereby rationing the right to produce. Wheat acreage was reduced from 79 to an allotment of 62 and then to the present 55 million acres. Cotton was cut from 25 to 20 and then on down to the present 17 million acres. These drastic reductions, forced by the application of the price support law, penalized many farmers directly by resulting in shrunken volume and uneco-

nomie farming operations. In addition, acreage diverted from the basic crops shifted surplus problems into many other crops and livestock. Now almost every farmer is adversely affected, regardless of what crops or livestock he raises.

If wartime rigid 90 percent supports were the answer to the problem of our farm families, there would now be no problem.

Farm incomes have declined in every year except one between 1947 and 1954, and in all these years 90 percent supports were in effect.

Farmers are not interested in price alone. What they really want for their families is more net income, which is affected by volume and costs as well as by price. The 90 percent of parity approach focuses on support price alone.

To return now to wartime 90 percent supports would be wrong. Production would be stimulated. Markets would be further destroyed, instead of expanded as must be done. More surplus would accumulate—and surpluses are price depressing. Regimentation by ever stricter production controls would be the end result.

It is inconceivable that we should ask farm families to go deeper into this self-defeating round of cause and effect.

2. The provision for dual parity would result in a permanent double standard of parity for determining price supports. Four crops would receive preferential treatment out of 160 products for which parity prices are figured. There is no justification in logic or in equity for such preferential treatment.

Particularly is this true because, under the working of the modernized parity formula enacted by the Congress, increasing the parity prices of some commodities automatically lowers the parity prices of all other commodities.

If parity prices for wheat, corn, cotton and peanuts are to be higher, then parity prices of the other products must be lower.

To whatever degree prices would be further artificially raised there would be a corresponding stimulus to production, more controls on farmers, reduced consumption, increased accumulations,

and lower prices in the market. Such a device for parity manipulation could destroy the parity concept itself. It places a potent weapon in the hands of opponents of all price supports for farmers. We have no right to place the welfare of our farm families in such jeopardy.

The provision for mandatory supports on the feed grains would create more problems for farmers. The market for feed grains would shrink as livestock production would come to depend more on forage and less on grain. The flow of feed grains into government stocks would increase and production controls would necessarily be intensified. Price relationships between feed, livestock and livestock products would be distorted. Producers of feeder cattle, feeder lambs, and feeder pigs would be faced with downward pressure on prices. An imbalance would develop between feed crops and livestock products, with all its adverse consequences.

The multiple price plans for wheat and rice would have adverse effects upon producers of other crops, upon our relations with friendly foreign nations, and upon our consumers.

There are other serious effects in the bill such as certain provisions found in the section dealing with the dairy industry. Other features are administratively bad and would require the hiring of thousands of additional inspectors and enforcers.

I recognize that the restoration by H. R. 12 of wartime mandatory 90% price supports applies only to 1956 crops. This, in combination with other objectionable features of the bill, would put us back on the old road which has proved so harmful to farmers.

Bad as some provisions of this bill are, I would have signed it if in total it could be interpreted as sound and good for farmers and the nation.

After the most careful analysis I conclude that the bill is contradictory and self-defeating even as an emergency relief measure and it would lead to such serious consequences in additional sur-

pluses and production controls as to further threaten the income and the welfare of our farm people. Because the good features of the bill are combined with so much that would be detrimental to farmers' welfare, it might be better to retreat rather than advance toward a brighter future for our farm families.

Well now we have some and forward-looking legislation in the Agricultural Act of 1956. Neither that Act nor any other can become fully effective so long as it is smothered under the vast surpluses that have accumulated. We must actively direct remedial legislation to remove this burden and enable the fundamental sound program provided in the Act of 1954 to become workable. Such remedial measures were proposed in my message of January 9. These actions the Administration will take immediately as I have already indicated that the failure of the Congress to enact a good new farm bill can have a deleterious effect on farm income in 1956, unless prompt administrative efforts to offset them are made immediately. Particularly, the failure to enact a Soil Bank before planting time this year makes such administrative efforts imperative.

Consequently, we are going to take prompt and decisive administrative action to improve farm income now. I have conferred with the Secretary of Agriculture and the Administration is moving immediately on four major fronts:

1. In 1956, price supports on five of the basic crops—wheat, corn, cotton, rice and peanuts—will be set at a level of at least 82½% of parity. Tobacco will be supported as voted in the referendum in accordance with existing law.

Within this range of price support flexibility, the Administration intends to set minimum support levels that will result in a national average of:

- Wheat at \$2.00 a bushel
- Corn at \$1.50 a bushel
- Rice at \$4.50 per hundred pounds

A separate support for corn not under acreage control in the commercial corn area will be announced at an early date.

Price supports on cotton and peanuts have not yet been announced but will be at least $82\frac{1}{2}\%$ of parity.

The Secretary of Agriculture will announce shortly the details of the new cotton export sales program.

2. For this year the support price of manufacturing milk will be increased to \$3.25 per hundred pounds. The support price of butter fat will be increased to 58.6 cents a pound.

3. We will use Department of Agriculture funds, where assistance will be constructive, to strengthen the prices of perishable farm commodities. We will have well over \$400 million for that purpose for the year beginning July 1.

These actions, the Administration will take immediately.

I now request Congress to pass a straight Soil Bank Bill as promptly as possible. It should be in operation before fall seeding for next year's crops. It is vital that we get the Soil Bank authorized in this session of the Congress. There is general agreement on it. I am ready to sign a sound Soil Bank Act as soon as Congress sends it to me. That can be accomplished in a very few days if the leadership in Congress will undertake the task.

This combined program of Administrative action and legislative enactment will begin now to improve the income and welfare of all our farm families.

Here is a challenge for both the Legislative and Executive branches of the Federal Government.

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

NOTE: The text of the vetoed bill is printed in House Document 380 (84th Cong., 2d sess.).

83 ¶ Radio and Television Address to the
American People on the Farm Bill Veto.

April 16, 1956

[Delivered from the broadcast room of the White House]

My Fellow Citizens:

Tonight I want to talk mainly with the farm folks, with you men and women on the farms of America. But the subject of my talk is of vital concern to all of you—whether you live on a farm or ranch, in a small village or in a great city.

My subject involves our food and fiber supply—and the prosperity of the United States. It concerns the well-being of our farm families—the very foundation of a strong America. This is not—or certainly should not be—a partisan matter. I personally shall never treat it as such and I will always resist any attempt to make the farmer and his problems a political football.

As you know, today I found it necessary to return the farm bill to the Congress without my approval.

I took that action with a sense of deep disappointment.

Tonight I want to talk with you about my decision.

I know you are depending on me to tell you the truth as I see it—and the truth is: I had no choice. I could not sign this bill into law because it was a bad bill. In the months ahead, it would hurt more farmers than it would help. In the long run it would hurt all farmers.

It was a bad bill for the country. It was confusing—in some aspects self-defeating, and so awkward and clumsy as to make its administration difficult or impractical.

The failure to get a good farm law that we worked so hard for, hoped for and expected, leaves us with but two courses of action: First, we shall use the administrative tools we now have at our command to help farmers get more of the income they deserve

on this year's crops. Second, we shall look to the Congress to enact the Soil Bank I asked for in January.

I'll have more to say on both these points just a little later in this talk.

At the moment, I want to go back a bit. You will remember that early in January, more than three months ago, I sent a Special Message to Congress recommending an expanded nine-point Farm Program, including a Soil Bank which would reduce surpluses and improve our basic resource—the soil. These farm measures were a vital part of a broad program which the Administration presented to the Congress for the health and growth of our entire economy. The farmer had a real interest in the entire program for his sales and prices depend first of all on the prosperity of all America. And likewise, the country's prosperity cannot be sustained without a healthy and prosperous agriculture.

I am happy that the Congress has already acted on several of my agricultural requests, such as the refund on the Federal gas tax, increased funds for the Special School Milk Program, and funds for the eradication of Brucellosis—a menace to the health of our people.

The Special Message I sent to the Congress was not thought up in a Washington office. It was developed with the indispensable help of farmers from the grass roots of America. It was your program. In it were the thoughts of farm men and women from all sections of our country. I urged speedy passage of the Soil Bank along with the other requested measures.

The reasons for the Message were simple: First, farmers generally were not—and are not—getting a fair return for their work. Farm families, almost alone of our people, are not sharing as they should in the record prosperity of our nation.

Secondly, farm families deserve a better break because of heavy investments they have in land and equipment, the main risks they take, and the sweat they put into their jobs. Our

farmers are the most efficient in the world in any other industry do so few people produce so much food to feed so many at such reasonable prices to consumers. One of the reasons for the January Message to Congress was that our government owes the farmers help. Unwise and unbalanced price support legislation of the past many years has distorted production and markets; and piled up prices depressing surpluses. These surpluses are our main agricultural problem today. They have operated to cut farm income; first, by forcing severe reductions in acreage allotted to farmers for price supported crops; second, in some cases, notably that of corn, the presence of huge government surpluses has served to drive down prices in the free market where many farmers still sell their crops; third, by forcing reductions, forced by these surpluses, have resulted in increased production of other farm products which has driven prices down and decreased the prices of these products and income to their producers. These great surpluses depress the income of farm families by many hundreds of millions of dollars a year. That is shocking. But the disappointing thing was that other provisions of the farm bill were in many instances of a kind which would have helped. These thoughts were in my mind when I wrote the January Special Farm Message to Congress which began with these words: "In this session no problem before Congress demands more urgent attention." I studied every detail of the bill. I felt the Soil Bank would have done two things to relieve the price squeeze on farmers. First, it would have distributed farm income. Second, it would have attacked the fundamental problem of surpluses—surpluses which are the primary cause of the farm troubles today—surpluses which last year kept hundreds of millions of dollars out of farmers' pockets. I asked myself these questions: In my judgment, no general farm legislation is more efficacious unless it tackles this problem forthrightly and effectively. My request for farm legislation went to Congress more than three months ago. So highly a week went by that I did not give more respect. On January 23, I said there is a broad program

and if the Congress will act on it promptly, it will give the farmers relief.”

On February 29, I repeated: “This legislation is needed now.”

On March 14, I pointed out: “The planting season is rushing upon us.”

On March 21, I expressed hope Congress would act promptly.

On April 4, I urged immediate action if farmers were to get any relief this year.

Nature does not wait for the Government. You can’t start farming by pushing buttons, and you cannot stop growing crops by throwing a switch. You must know before you climb on your planters what the government corn program is . . . you must know before you oil up your drill what the rules are on feed grains. It costs money to plow, to disk, to plant . . . you cannot afford to turn around and plow up a crop if the rules are changed on you in the middle of the season.

Last Wednesday, Congress passed a bill. I was happy that the Administration’s Soil Bank was still in it.

But the disappointing thing was that other provisions of the bill would have rendered the Soil Bank almost useless. The fact is that we got a hodgepodge in which the bad provisions more than cancelled out the good.

Nevertheless, I studied every detail of this bill over many long hours. For I had said before final Congressional action that I would not insist on what I might call perfection, that I would be glad to sign any good workable farm bill.

I wanted to sign the bill if I possibly could. But I owed it to you who are farmers, to all citizens, and to my own conscience to ask myself these questions.

First: “Would this bill help solve the real problem—the surpluses which hang over the market and push down farm prices?”

The only honest answer to that question is: No. On the contrary, by going back to the wartime rigid price system, we would set in motion forces designed to produce more of certain crops at

a time when we need less of them. It would also tend to shrink both foreign and domestic markets for some of these crops.

Thus we would encourage even more surpluses; more surpluses which we cannot use—more surpluses which build up faster than we can dispose of them—more surpluses which would further depress farm prices in the market.

Moreover, we can find much better farm uses for the million dollars a day that the storage on these surpluses is now costing the government.

My second question was: "Would this bill really help farmers?"

The answer to that is that it would temporarily help some farmers. But the inescapable conclusion is it would hurt many more farmers than it would help. And in the long run, it would hurt them all.

For example, it would threaten to destroy the whole parity concept in our farm legislation by establishing a double standard of measurement for price supports. Further this bill would hurt livestock farmers more than it would help them—although well over half of farm income is from livestock.

My third question: "Would it be in the farmers' interest for me to sign a bad bill to get the Soil Bank?"

The long delay in getting this bill makes it too late for most farmers to participate in the Soil Bank on this year's crops. In the South you're already planting cotton. In the southern Corn Belt you're already planting corn. Spring wheat is being seeded in the Dakotas. Even the supporters of this bill in Congress admitted in debate last week that it was too late for the Soil Bank to do much good this year.

However, if the Congress will speedily enact the Soil Bank, there is a way by which it can help farmers this year. I shall come back to this in a moment.

A further very important question I had to ask myself: "Is this a good bill for the country?" I firmly believe that if the bill is not good for farmers, then it cannot be good for all the other citizens of our country.

And early in the morning, I had a very good breakfast on crops that we have raised here in America. I said, "Well, these were few of the questions I asked myself as I studied the farm bill. And when I had searched my mind and my conscience, I had no alternative. To protect and improve our farm families, as well as the good of the nation, I had to put the bill to the Congress without my approval. Moreover, I was itchy. What a risky thing in a election year to disapprove this bill!"

Ladies and gentlemen, I have no political expert to tell me one rule. Through study, analysis, and consultation, and by measuring each proposal against basic principles. I try to find out what is the right as best it can. I do the people, surely expect exactly that of me. And, as long as I hold the High Office of President, I shall not do anything else. For example, I would like to have one of the great things I've ever seen for men and women in the world. It is a good thing for America. That is, I am reporting to you what I truly believe.

Now that Congress has failed, to date, to pass a good farm bill—what course is open to this Administration?

Let me make this perfectly plain. I do not propose to stand by and do nothing. The long delay in getting this bill made it too late for most of the farmers to participate in the Soil Bank of this year's crops. This Administration is resolved to do everything that is legal and sound, in using the tools at its command to help farmers. But you're already planting corn. Spring wheat is being sown and help them now.

The failure of the Congress to enact a Soil Bank before planting time this year makes such administrative efforts imperative.

I have conferred with the Secretary of Agriculture and the Administration will act immediately on four major fronts:

In 1956, this year, price supports on five of the basic crops—wheat, corn, cotton, rice, and peanuts—will be set at a level of at least 82 1/2% of parity. Tobacco will be supported as well as the other crops in a program with existing law.

Within this range of price support flexibility, the Administration

get into effect. The Soil Bank Act, the Congress can authorize the government to begin making payments to a maximum of \$100,000,000. When the farmer signs a contract after the farmer signs a contract. The farmer will get a 50-cent increase in the price of his corn at \$1.50 a bushel. The farmer will get a 50-cent increase in the price of his rice at \$5.40 a hundred pounds. A separate support for corn and rice will be provided for the commercial corn area will be provided for the rice area. These prices will help strengthen prices for all corn and all rice. Price supports for cotton and peanuts have been officially announced and will be put into effect by the Secretary of Agriculture. The Secretary of Agriculture will announce the details of the new cotton export sales program.

For this year the support price of manufacturing sugar has been increased to \$3.25 per hundred pounds. The support price of butter fat will be increased to 58.6 cents a pound. We will use Department of Agriculture funds where their expenditures will be constructive in strengthening the prices of farm commodities. We will have a war of over \$100 million for that purpose for the twelve months beginning July 1. We have had such purchase programs in the past for beef, pork, and wool in more recent months. These programs helped raise the price of cattle and hogs for the hard-hit livestock man. We have also used these programs for commodities such as fruits, potatoes, and vegetables when they were in temporary distress. These actions, the Administration will take immediately.

Now here is what we are asking Congress to do immediately. Today, I asked Congress to pass a straight Soil Bank Bill as promptly as possible. Both Houses of Congress have shown they approve of the Soil Bank. The Administration urges it. Our farmers want it. So we have reason to hope for it quickly. We want to get it into operation before fall seeding for next year's crops. It is imperative that we get the Soil Bank authorized in this session of the Congress. The farmers of America have a high demand and expect that. Many of the farmers are in need of stock and high prices for implements. I have one further proposal to make so that the Soil Bank can

get into effective operation this year. By a simple provision in the Soil Bank Act, the Congress can authorize the government to begin making payments to a maximum of fifty percent promptly after the farmer signs a contract. Thus immediately after July 1, 1956, farmers who would agree to participate in either the acreage reserve or conservation reserve phases of the Soil Bank program will be eligible for payment.

These initial payments will help our farmers this crop year. Such payments will also enable them to contract for delivery of seeds and trees and for rental or purchases of implements for use at the appropriate planting time. Seed men and nurserymen would also, under this proposal, be able to insure delivery of needed supplies to farmers.

Final payments each year would be made to farmers upon such compliance.

If farmers generally should participate in the Soil Bank program, payments could add up to as much as an additional \$500 million to them this crop year. And of course as the program succeeded in overcoming the surplus problem, the greater benefits would be found in the increased market prices for farm products.

We have already wasted valuable time. I shall urge the Congress to act speedily on this matter.

Also, I shall shortly request the Congress for increased authorization to continue our successful movement of farm surpluses into constructive uses overseas. This will further bolster domestic markets.

I also hope that Congress will act promptly to give us the farm credit legislation which we have already recommended. This strengthened program will help meet the credit needs of farmers—particularly young farmers and their wives. These young farmers, many of whom began farming upon their return from military service, do have special problems. Their operations began during a period of high prices for land, high prices for livestock, and high prices for implements. Many of them are confronted with a shortage of capital. We want to encourage them

to stay on the farms of America. And America needs them on the farms. The Secretary of Agriculture and I are agreed that in the government's extension of credit to these young farmers, our main guide-line will be the character of the individual.

These administrative actions and legislative requests are sound for farmers. They will give farmers more income this year.

They are in the best interests of all Americans.

We must move vigorously to safeguard the economic health of the farm families of America.

That makes sense.

My fellow Americans, I value the trust you have placed in me to do the right thing as I see it—honestly, frankly and regardless of political pressure. That is what I have tried to do. That is what I am trying to do. That is what I will continue to try to do.

Thank you for giving me the privilege of coming into your homes this evening.

Good-night.

NOTE: The President's special message to Congress of January 9, 1956, appears as Item 6 above, and his veto message, as Item 82.

84 ¶ Address at Meeting Sponsored by the Republican National Committee. *April 17, 1956*

My Fellow Republicans:

It is a grand feeling to know that I am among friends. As you may be aware, following any Presidential address, a flood of messages pour in at the White House. Among a very large group today, I am glad to say preponderantly, overwhelmingly, favorable, there were a few sturdy souls who expressed themselves differently.

One man from California started out, "I am disgusted." And he said, "Never again will I vote for this Party. To think that

such a Party would allow itself to be led by a weakling, persuaded by his business friends, his rich business friends, to crucify the farmers of the United States. He ended up by saying, "What you should do is kick out Secretary Benson and follow him your self as fast as you can."

I really felt I would like to have answered that man, for this one reason: He was right; I have many, many business friends, and some of them sent me messages. "But every message I had from the business men—and some of them old and dear friends said, 'Please sign the bill.'" So I think, just in defense of terrible business men, I should answer that one man.

Nevertheless, even this early in 1936, I as a candidate in the midst of a Presidential campaign—though neither Party has yet nominated its candidate for the office.

At stake in the contest will be more than public office, more than the relation of success or the gloom of defeat, more even than the fortunes of a great political party.

Next November, America will decide the course our Republic shall take through a four-year span of insuperable problems and mighty challenges; of many dangers for the timid and the weak; of rewarding opportunities for the courageous and wise.

On that four-year course—on the policies that guide it, on the character and attitudes of those chosen to direct it, on the spirit which animates the Republic during its progress, the continuance of our advance in prosperity, the strengthening of our security, the progress we shall make toward a just peace among the nations.

My fellow Republicans, the campaign before us is concerned with those things which count most—people and principles.

The campaign is concerned with people, for the mission of our Party is to help 167 million Americans build a nation stronger spiritually and materially. To describe the nation I mean, permit me to quote myself: "a nation whose every citizen has reason for bold hope, where effort is rewarded and prosperity shared, where freedom expands and peace is secure."

People are made in the image of God. They are divinely

our founding fathers, well knowing that a cut up, divided national existence on this continent would be ruin for us all.

Everything he did from then on, the insults he took from his own Cabinet, the sarcasm he endured, the way he was almost abused by a general, to the great horror of his aides. And he refused to resent it, saying merely, "If the man will win a battle, I will hold his horse." He dedicated himself heart and soul, and completely, to one thing: the good of the United States of America, which was its unity.

Even at that day, as he pondered the great Emancipation Proclamation, it was done as a war measure, for its influence on keeping this nation one.

A party which in all its gatherings senses, hovering in a room such as this, that spirit, that history, that tradition, can never go far from the beaten path. Dedication to service, not to self-glorification.

I am often asked why I entered political life as a Republican.

Now no Party has a monopoly on brains or idealism or statesmanship. We—Republicans and Democrats alike—are motivated by the same loyalty to the Flag; by the same devotion to freedom and human dignity; by the same high purposes for the nation's security and its people's welfare. Within our hearts and minds, in all things that are vital to the Republic, we cannot be partisans. We are all Americans. But in the practical pursuit of national objectives, we differ in our methods, in our traditions, in our philosophy of government's responsibilities.

I am a Republican, because I share our Party's deep-lying trust in what free men can do—a fundamental trust in the nature and capability of individual human beings.

I believe the Republican Party, in its methods and traditions and broad philosophy:

Offers the best hope of preserving the self-reliance and vigorous independence of individual Americans;

Best serves the nation in the search for peace with justice and freedom;

Best fosters a competitive enterprise economy whose purpose is a wider prosperity fairly shared;

Best keeps economic decision-making in the hands of the people and out of the hands of government;

Best answers the concerns of people for the meeting of their human needs;

Best assures our children, and their children's children, the heritage of an America rich in all the resources of nature, dynamic in great traditions and ideals and purposes.

I so believe because the Republican Party remains true to its heritage.

Our Party was born to vindicate the equal dignity of all men, their equal right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. The dedication of its earliest days still animates our Party in this age when world-wide corrosion eats away at freedom, and justice and opportunity for men.

The Republican Party has fostered the development of an economy, dynamic in its power to release men's energies. Vast, unfettered production for vast, unfettered consumption is the economic expression of our political belief: All who work to produce should share equitably in the fruits of their labor.

Today, under the policies of the Republican Party, our economy is more immense than ever before in its productivity, more bountiful in its widespread benefits, more dependable and more creative.

The Republican Party, by all its traditions, is committed to support men's aspirations and convictions as individual citizens. We reject any attempt to treat them merely as members of pressure groups or as serial numbers in the files of a government office. The individual—in his God-given talents, in his limitless potential—is the source of every advance in the material and intellectual good of humanity.

That fundamental principle in the Republican credo has a corollary—every American is equal before the law and the conscience of government.

in the philosophy of the Republican Party, the role of government requires a faithful stewardship of the heritage received from our forefathers, that heritage is to be transmitted, enriched and enlarged—to our descendants. Heedful of the wishes and the needs of the day, the Republican Party will not be false to itself by despoiling our children for a present, transitory advantage. So believing, all of us must work to help the American people more clearly know the principles of the Republican program for America tomorrow, and by these principles, are several in number. They are implicit in the personal testament I have just read to you. But I should like to present some of them to you explicitly for your examination, for correction, for amplification. The first is this: it is the duty of every citizen to devote his life to the individual and to the family, to his neighbors, to the people down the street, to the people everywhere, to the American of every race and creed, to the people of every land, to the rights and privileges of free citizens in a free nation. And the second is this: the spirit of our people is the strength of our nation. The ultimate values of mankind are spiritual. These values include liberty, human dignity, opportunity, and equal rights and justice. These are our heritage and birthright. Our common efforts to preserve and strengthen them must be inspired by things of the spirit—by national pride, by self-respect, by an eagerness to meet our responsibilities as free men, by humility, by recognition of the debt we owe to generations of men and women who built this nation. We reject any attempt to treat them merely as members of a race. The third in my opinion is this: No section or group in America can permanently prosper unless all groups and sections prosper. More jobs and better jobs, a flourishing agriculture, happier living for every family, peace and plenty for all people—these are the goals of a strong, united, private enterprise economy in which there are ever-increasing opportunities.

The fourth principle is surely this: and individuals, and states, and nations, and the Government must have a heart as well as a head. We must concern ourselves with basic human problems. Americans are committed to the alleviation of misfortune and distress among their fellow citizens. Government should increase and strengthen personal and family security without impairing the self-respect, the initiative, and the incentive of the individual to provide for his own.

The fifth principle is that the collective defense of free nations must help to strengthen the individual's sense of freedom. Courage, in principle, cooperation in practice, makes freedom positive. Our people's eagerness to compete is matched only by their willingness to cooperate in a common cause.

A greater freedom is defined as the right of self-discipline. In a nation such as ours, indeed in any social order, there is a great need for performance of certain jobs in which people must work together. In other forms of government this group work is produced under the order of a dictator, or of a central government that is all-powerful. Free government gives us the right to do it by spontaneous cooperation. When that readiness to cooperate with others in the performance of these great problems disappears, then it will not be America. It is one of the great missions of the Republican Party, to keep alive, to help to grow, to enrich the ideal that every citizen must forever be eager to perform his obligations to the country when it is needed. Farmers, laborers, businessmen, veterans, all parts of our American continuity deserve the confidence and support of government in making their contribution to our national well-being.

The sixth principle, as I see it, is that our conviction that the purpose of government is to serve, never to dominate. There has never been a better, clearer explanation of this principle than one I have often quoted from Abraham Lincoln. "The legitimate object of government," he said, "is to do for a community of people, whatever they need to have done, but can not do, at all, or can not, so well do, for themselves—in their

separate, and individual capacities. But in all that people can individually do as well for themselves, government ought not to interfere."

And here is the seventh principle I suggest:

To stay free we must stay strong. Though we must recognize that peace cannot be gained by arms alone, yet we must gird ourselves with sufficient military strength to discourage resort to war and to protect our nation's vital interests; moreover, we must help to strengthen the collective defense of free nations against those who would seek their ends through aggression. Our own and our allied strength must be spiritual, intellectual, scientific, material.

The eighth, and in this day requiring special emphasis, is:

Under God, we espouse the cause of freedom and justice and peace for all peoples. The peace we want will be the product of understanding and agreement and law among nations. It will reflect enlightened self-interest. It will foster the concentration of human energy for the advancement of human standards in all the areas of mankind's material and spiritual life.

I believe that the Republican platform, presented to America at the National Convention in August, will in substance be the expression of these principles applied to the human problems of today and tomorrow. It will therefore be a program for the good of all Americans, whether they work in field or factory or office. Faith in America and in God will be its inspiration. Courage and optimism will hearten it. Integrity will characterize it. The welfare of all the people, the security of the Republic, the peace of the world will be its objectives.

It is our conviction that, for Americans who cherish eternal principle and high purpose, that document will chart the path to a better America, a nation ever growing in material and in spiritual strength. The Republican platform will be a program of principle around which all Americans—Republicans, Independents and sound-thinking Democrats—can rally. We welcome them all.

Tomorrow you return to your homes in every State and territory of the Republic, and on the islands of the Caribbean. You go as leaders, chosen to lead by those who know best your fitness for the responsibilities of leadership. To help prepare yourselves for the campaign ahead, you have, during the past two days, talked over the problems and the anxieties of our time, the strategy and the tactics of the campaign, the priorities of your various tasks and missions.

Permit me a word of counsel to you on the eve of your departure. I offer my observations with real temerity, because I want to talk a moment about leadership and organization, and I realize that every individual in this room has had real experience in these fields.

You have already entered a vigorous campaign, and the first point to remember is: There is no such thing as an easy battle. The purpose of the present battle is to win the hearts and minds of men and women—Republican recruits to assure the party's right to carry on the business and functions of government.

Above all, it is our hope to appeal to youth because, once won to our side, the young citizen will, each year throughout a life much longer than most of us will have, attract other men and women to the Party.

The good fighter takes nothing for granted. It is not enough that you march under the Republican banner—a banner of which we are so proud because of the ideals and the principles for which it stands. You must look well to your organization and to the leaders you will assemble to direct its efforts.

Many long years in the service of our country brought me into contact with men whose qualities as leaders were unsurpassed. From them I learned many valuable lessons in organization. Among their immediate associates—that is, among the generals and the high-ranking staff officers—the great leaders surrounded themselves with the wisdom that comes from long study, from work, and experience. But they made certain, those great leaders did, that each lower echelon of leadership would in its

composition respond to the need for youth, for the idealism, the vigor, the enthusiasm, the faith, the fearlessness, the hardihood, the detailed, word-always necessary to victory, chosen by you as leaders. As long as I am back in my military life for a second, I should like to observe one thing about leadership that one of the great has said—Napoleon said: "He said that the great leader is the man who can do the leverage thing when everyone else is going crazy."

I think this is important in a political campaign because in the incident one night when a great many people were on the train, and certainly half of California were in the night, and the result of the election lost in California, the election in the nation was going to the bad place in a hand basket.

One man walked into the room and he said to this group of very excited people: "You might as well go on home, not even you women and your fathers and your reputations can lose California." And he said: "I know because I am going to speak for the Republican ticket, and I have asked the Committee to send me in to other States; not here, it is not needed." And he was right. So if you can just keep you'll hear when the pressure is on that is one of the marks of the real leader.

Moreover, the best leaders never lost an opportunity to visit their own front-line men—to get in the line, to get to the front line, to get to the spirit of comradeship that we have in the front line, and we are so proud because of the ideals and the principles. So it must be with any organization that is to influence millions of people into a particular line of action. The wisdom of experience is necessary, and this you provide very much for your organization. But it is not alone sufficient with contact. To win your organization into an effective instrument for political campaigns each of you must visit in the front line, to know those who, under your direction, are carrying the burdens of the fight that comes from the wisdom that comes from the front line. Moreover, to attract the young men, the young men of leadership that can set up not itself search out and employ the

young. Our aim must be to convince every American newly arrived at voting age that the Republican Party, by its principles and by the quality and appeal of its personnel, is the Party through which young citizens' aspirations for their country can be achieved.

Moreover, we must convince them that it is the Party in which their own qualities of leadership will be recognized and employed.

So shall we go before the country with a program that is concerned with those things which count most: people and principles.

Let us stand on a record that reflects only desire of the Republican Party to serve America honestly and earnestly, a record that is unimpeachable in its concern for people and principles.

We will win if, from the moment of your arrival home, you work to build a crusading organization of inspired moral determinations to interpret Republican principles and the Republican program to all the people.

Victory will be the product. Ladies and gentlemen, I thank you for your kind attention.

The President spoke at the Sheraton Park Hotel, Washington, D.C., on April 19, 1956.

85 ¶ Letter Appointing Members of the President's Committee on Education Beyond the High School April 19, 1956

Dear _____:

I am delighted to learn that you have agreed to serve as a member of the Committee on Education Beyond the High School, and I take pleasure in appointing you to that post. In augmenting public awareness of the increased need for educational facilities and in determining how better to serve that need, you can through the work of this Committee perform a great service to the Nation. Your deliberations will, I am confident, command the attention

of every American and contribute significantly to a comprehensive and determined effort to meet our present and future educational needs. Only through such effort can we be sure of providing adequate educational facilities for the needs of tomorrow.

With best wishes for success in this undertaking,

Sincerely,

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

NOTE: A list of 31 educators and other prominent citizens, to whom similar letters were sent, was released with the President's letter.

On March 28, 1956, the White House announced the appointment of the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Committee: Devereaux Colt Josephs, Chairman, Board of Directors, New York Life Insurance Company, New York City, and Dr. David Dodds Henry, President of Illinois University. The announcement stated that "among the problems to

be studied by the Committee will be problems of providing good teaching and housing for an expected major increase in college enrollment over the next 10 years. It will consider possible recommendations for steps to meet any shortage of scientists, engineers, or other professions. It will also be concerned with the waste of talent due to the failure of students to continue their education in high school or college until they develop their fullest capacities."

86 ¶ Letter Commemorating the 75th Anniversary of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America.

April 19, 1956

To the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America:

As the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners marks its Diamond Jubilee Year, I salute this international trade union for its contributions to the welfare of its vast membership, to the American free enterprise system, and to our free labor movement.

Such unions have done much to promote a rising standard of living for American wage earners and thus to further the economic and social progress of the Nation. By inspiring pride in craftsmanship among those in the skilled trades, by fostering apprenticeship training programs to help the Nation replenish its supply of skilled workers, and by helping to keep our production lines competently manned in war and peace, the Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners has contributed greatly to our country's security and growth.

This contribution is due in large part to the Brotherhood's outstanding leaders—such men as William Hutcheson—leaders who, over the years, have been a credit to their Union and to the entire Nation.

I wish all of you a happy Seventy-fifth Anniversary and continued success in the years to come.

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

NOTE: The President handed this letter to Maurice A. Hutcheson, President of the Brotherhood, at a meeting in the President's office.

87 ¶ Address at Annual Dinner of the American Society of Newspaper Editors. *April 21, 1956*

[Broadcast over radio from the Statler Hotel, Washington, D. C.]

Mr. MacDonald, Mrs. MacDonald, Mr. Chief Justice and Mrs. Warren, and members of this distinguished audience:

When I last appeared before this body, almost exactly three years ago, stories from battlefields and fighting fronts crowded the front pages of our press. Human freedom was under direct assault in important sectors by the disciples of communistic dictatorship. Violence and aggression were brutal facts for millions of human beings. Fear of global war, of a nuclear holocaust,

darkness of the future. For many, the chance for a just and enduring peace seemed almost hopeless. Today, thirty years later, we have reason for cautious hope that a genuine, fruitful, and peaceful world can emerge from a hundred decades. The world breathes a little more easily today. Now the prudent man will not delude himself that his hope for peace guarantees the realization of peace. Even with genuine good will, time and effort will be needed to correct the injustices to cure the dangerous sores that plague the earth today. And the future alone can show whether the Communists really want to move toward a just and stable peace. Yet not for many years has there been such promise that patient, imaginative, enterprising effort could gradually be rewarded in steady decrease in the dread of war; in an economic surge that will raise the living standards of all the world; in growing confidence that liberty and justice will one day overcome statism, in the better understanding among all peoples that is the essential prelude to true peace.

This week marks the anniversary of one of the most important events in Freedom's progress. One hundred eighty-one years ago on April 19th, our forefathers started a revolution that still goes on. The shots at Concord as Emerson wrote, were heard "round the world."

The echoes of Concord still sur men's minds.

The Bandung meeting, last year, of Asian and African leaders bears witness to Emerson's vision. There, almost two centuries after Concord, and halfway round the earth, President Sukarno of Indonesia, opened the conference with an eloquent tribute to Paul Revere and to the spirit of the American Revolution.

Now why do the musket shots of a few embattled farmers at the Concord bridge still ring out in far-off lands? The reason is clear. Human freedom was under

Concord was far more than a local uprising to redress immediate grievances. The enduring meaning of Concord lies in the ideas that inspired the historic stand there. Concord is the sym-

but of certain basic convictions about the relationship of man to the state.

These convictions were founded in a firm belief in the spiritual worth of the individual. He must be free to develop his powers and to worship according to his conscience. He must enjoy equality before the law. He must have a fair chance to develop his talents. The purpose of government is to secure its citizens in freedom.

They are proud of their nation. They are proud of their own early years as a free nation. Their fathers had laid down principles. They looked on their findings as common property of all mankind.

These deep convictions have been guided as a mission. They have taken deep root elsewhere in the Western world. In the 19th Century they inspired a great surge of freedom among our Western European and the Western Hemisphere.

The ideas of freedom are still the truly noblest and most universal principles abroad in the world. They appeal to the timeless aspirations of mankind. In some regions they flourish in some they are officially outlawed. But everywhere to some degree they stir and inspire humanity.

The affairs of men do not stand still. The ideas of freedom will grow in vigor and influence—or they will gradually wither and die. If the area of freedom shrinks, the results for us will be tragic. Only if freedom continues to flourish will man realize the prosperity, the happiness, the enduring peace that he seeks.

Under these conditions, we cannot expect that the vision of a

free society will go unchallenged. The Communists are aware of this. The appeal of the ideas of freedom has been shown dramatically during the past decade. In that time, 18 nations of 650 million people—almost a quarter of the population of the globe—have gained independence.

In manifold ways these nations differ widely from each other and from us. They are the heirs of many ancient cultures and national traditions. All of the great religions of the world are found among them. Their peoples speak in a hundred tongues.

Yet they share in common with all free countries the basic and universal values that inspired our nation's founders.

They believe deeply in the right of self-government.

They believe deeply in the dignity of man.

They aspire to improve the welfare of the individual, as a basis of organized society.

The new nations have many of the sensitivities that marked our own early years as a free nation. They are proud of their independence and are quick to resent any slight to their sovereignty. Some of them are concerned to avoid involvements with other nations, as we were for many long years.

Certainly we Americans should understand and respect these points of view. We must accept the right of each nation to choose its own path to the future.

All of these countries are faced with immense obstacles and difficulties. Freedom and human dignity must rest upon a satisfactory economic base. Yet in many of these new nations, incomes average less than \$100 per year. Abject poverty blinds men's eyes to the beauty of freedom's ideals. Hopelessness makes men prey to any promise of a better existence, even the most false and spurious.

Ofttimes the peoples of these countries expected independence itself to produce rapid material progress. Their political leaders are therefore under heavy pressure to find short-cuts and quick answers to the problems facing them.

Under these conditions, we cannot expect that the vision of a free society will go unchallenged. The Communists, aware of unsatisfied desires for better conditions of life, falsely pretend they can rapidly solve the problems of economic development and industrialization. They hold up the Soviet Union as a model and guide. But the Communists conceal the terrible human costs that characterize their ruthless system of dictatorship and forced labor.

Now we have a vital interest in assuring that newly independent

nations preserve and consolidate the free institutions of their choice.

The prospects for peace are brightest when enlightened self-governing peoples control the policy of nations. Peoples do not want war. Rulers beyond the reach of popular control are more likely to engage in reckless adventures and to raise the grim threat of war. So the spread of freedom enhances the prospect for durable peace.

That prospect would be dimmed or destroyed should freedom be forced into steady retreat. Then the remaining free societies, our own among them, would one day find themselves beleaguered and imperiled. We would face once again the dread prospect of paying dearly, in blood, for our own survival.

In every corner of the globe, it is far less costly to sustain freedom than to recover it when lost.

Moreover, our own well-being is bound up in the well-being of other free nations. We cannot prosper in peace if we are isolated from the rest of the world. If our economy is to continue to flourish and grow, our nation will need more trade, not less. The steady growth of other nations, especially the less developed nations, will create new and growing demands for goods and services. It will produce an environment which will benefit both them and us.

Indeed, Atlanta, Pittsburgh, Seattle—every American town and farm—has a stake in the success or failure of these new nations—a stake almost impossible to exaggerate.

If these new nations are to achieve economic progress with freedom, they will have to provide many of the necessary ingredients for themselves—indeed, most of them.

Only these peoples and their leaders can supply the initiative, the spark, and determination essential to success. And they must mobilize the larger part of the resources they require.

But these nations are gravely lacking in trained men for management, production, education and the professions. Their institutions for such training are limited. Hence they are

handicapped in trying to extend modern techniques to agriculture, industry and other fields.

They also face shortages of capital and foreign exchange, even though they strain to mobilize their own resources. Private foreign investment should be utilized as much as feasible; but for many areas, it will clearly fall far short of the requirements. Moreover, their task of improving conditions of life is made the more difficult by their large and rapidly increasing populations.

Inevitably these nations must look abroad for assistance, as ours did for so many years. They want help, first of all, in real and understanding and enduring friendship. They want help in training skilled people and in securing investment capital to supplement their own resources. For such help they will look to us as the most prosperous and advanced economy of the world.

Foresight will compel an understanding response from us. In our own enlightened interest we can and must do much to help others in pursuit of their legitimate aspirations.

Further, we must recognize that economic and technical assistance cannot be a transitory policy. The problems of economic progress are not to be solved in a single spurt. Our efforts must be sustained over a number of years.

To do the most good, some part of our material help will have to be furnished on a long-term basis which these nations can plan on. For some purposes, commitments on a strictly annual basis are not sufficient. It takes time to complete major projects like hydro-electric and reclamation developments. If the new nations can plan on some part of our help for several years, they will be better able to mobilize resources of their own and assistance from others.

Furthermore, our assistance must be used flexibly to fit needs and plans as they develop. We must be ready to adapt our help promptly to meet changing conditions.

The development program for Mutual Security now before the Congress is based on these considerations. It seeks from the Congress the additional authority that would add essential flexibility

and continuity to a part—a modest part—of the program. The amounts requested are the practicable minimum. In its entirety it is not, I assure you, an excessive program. It is in our national interest, in the fullest sense of that term.

III.

The ideas of freedom are at work, even where they are officially rejected. As we know, Lenin and his successors, true to Communist doctrine, based the Soviet State on the denial of these ideas. Yet the new Soviet rulers who took over three years ago have had to reckon with the force of these ideas, both at home and abroad.

The situation the new regime inherited from the dead Stalin apparently caused it to reappraise many of his mistakes.

Having lived under his one-man rule, they have espoused the concept of “collective” dictatorship. But dictatorship it still remains. They have denounced Stalin for some of the more flagrant excesses of his brutal rule. But the individual citizen still lacks the most elementary safeguards of a free society. The desire for a better life is still being sacrificed to the insatiable demands of the state.

In foreign affairs, the new regime has seemingly moderated the policy of violence and hostility which has caused the free nations to band together to defend their independence and liberties. For the present, at least, it relies more on political and economic means to spread its influence abroad. In the last year, it has embarked upon a campaign of lending and trade agreements directed especially toward the newly-developing countries.

It is still too early to assess in any final way whether the Soviet regime wishes to provide a real basis for stable and enduring relations.

Despite the changes so far, much of Stalin’s foreign policy remains unchanged. The major international issues which have troubled the post-war world are still unsolved. More basic

changes in Soviet policy will have to take place before the free nations can afford to relax their vigilance.

IV.

At Concord, our forebears undertook the struggle for freedom in this country. History has now called us to special tasks for sustaining and advancing this great cause in the world.

As we take stock of our position and of the problems that lie ahead, we must chart our course by three main guide lines:

The first one is: We must maintain a collective shield against aggression to allow the free peoples to seek their valued goals in safety.

We can take some cautious comfort in the signs that the Soviet rulers may have relegated military aggression to the background and adopted less violent methods to promote their aims. Nevertheless, Soviet military power continues to grow. Their forces are being rapidly modernized and equipped with nuclear weapons and long-range delivery systems.

So long as freedom is threatened and armaments are not controlled, it is essential for us to keep a strong military establishment ourselves and strengthen the bonds of collective security.

Without help from us, many of our allies could not afford to equip and maintain the forces needed for self-defense. Assistance to them is part of our proper contribution to the systems of common defense. If these systems did not exist, we would have to bear much greater costs ourselves. Thus in aiding our allies, the Mutual Security Program also advances our own security interests.

We hold our military strength only to guard against aggression, and to ensure that the world remains at peace. War in our time has become an anachronism. Whatever the case in the past, war in the future can serve no useful purpose. A war which became general, as any limited action might, could result in the virtual destruction of mankind.

Hence our search must be unceasing for a system to regulate

and reduce armaments under reliable safeguards. So far, the Soviet Union has refused to accept such safeguards. But even now we are earnestly negotiating toward this end. The problems involved are difficult and complex. We cannot afford to underestimate them. But we cannot afford to slacken our efforts to lift the burden of armaments and to remove their threat.

If effective measures of disarmament could be agreed upon, think how the world could be transformed! Atomic energy used for peace—not war—could bring about the development of a new industrial age. Far more human energy and output could be devoted to reducing poverty and need. To that end, as I said to this same body three years ago, we would “join with all nations in devoting a substantial percentage of the savings achieved from disarmament to a fund for world aid and construction.”

Of even more importance, the pall of mutual suspicions, fear and hatred that covers the earth would be swept away in favor of confidence, prosperity and human happiness.

Our second guide line is this: Within the free community, we must be a helpful and considerate partner in creating conditions where freedom will flourish.

Beyond defense, the crucial task of the free nations is to work together in constructive ways to advance the welfare of their peoples. Arms alone can give the world no permanent peace, no confident security. Arms are solely for defense—to protect from violent assault what we already have. They are only a costly insurance. They cannot add to human progress. Indeed, no matter how massive, arms by themselves would not prevent vital sections of the world falling prey to Communist blandishment or subversion.

If we are to preserve freedom here—it must likewise thrive in other important areas of the earth. For the welfare of ourselves and others, we must, therefore, help the rest of the free world achieve its legitimate aspirations. For our mutual benefit, we must join in building for greater future prosperity, for more human liberty and for lasting peace.

Within the Atlantic Community, our aim must be to strengthen the close bonds which have steadily developed since World War II. On Monday next, the Secretary of State will speak on this topic.

In the less developed nations, the urgent need is for economic and social progress for their peoples. Tonight I have been speaking particularly about the newer nations of Asia and Africa, which face such urgent problems. Of equal importance is continuing progress in other areas, especially by our neighbors in Latin America who are our fast friends. These developing nations need the full measure of our help in understanding and resources.

The steady progress of the free world also depends on the healthy flow of peaceful trade. Our example will be of great importance in freeing the channels of such trade from wasteful restraints. We can take an important step to that end by joining the Organization for Trade Cooperation. Our national interest will be served by passage of the legislation for that purpose now pending in the Congress.

Another important task is in helping to resolve disputes between friends we value highly. Such disputes impair the unity of the free nations and impede their advance. In these situations, each side would like the United States to back its point of view without reservation. But for us to do so could seldom contribute to the settling of disputes. Rather, it would sharpen the bitter enmities between the opposing sides and impair our value in helping to reach a fair solution.

Our aim and effort must be to assist in tempering the fears and antagonisms which lead to such disputes.

My words apply with special force to the troubled area of the Middle East. We will do all in our power—through the United Nations whenever possible—to prevent resort to violence there in that region. We are determined to support and assist any nation in that area which might be subjected to aggression. We will strive untiringly to build the foundations for stable peace in the whole region.

In these and many other constructive ways, our nation must help to build an environment congenial to freedom.

Our third guide line is this: We must seek, by every peaceful means, to induce the Soviet bloc to correct existing injustices and genuinely to pursue peaceful purposes in its relations with other nations.

As I have said, many of the wrongs of Stalin against other nations still prevail under his successors. Despite the efforts of the West at Berlin and Geneva, Germany is still divided by the Soviet veto of free all-German elections. The satellite nations of Eastern Europe are still ruled by Soviet puppets. In Asia, Korea remains divided, and stable peace has not yet been achieved.

We must be tireless in our efforts to remedy these injustices and to resolve the disputes that divide the world. These knotty problems will eventually yield to patient and sincere effort. We stand ready to explore all avenues for their just settlement. We will not grow weary in our quest for peaceful remedies for the enslavement or wrongful division of once-free nations.

The interests and purposes of the United States and of the free world do not conflict with the legitimate interests of the Russian nation or the aspirations of the Russian people. A Soviet government genuinely devoted to these purposes can have friendly relations with the United States and the free world for the asking. We will welcome that day.

v.

My friends, we cannot doubt that the current of world history flows toward freedom. In the long run dictatorship and despotism must give way. We can take courage from that sure knowledge.

But as a wise American, Mr. Justice Holmes, once said: "The inevitable comes to pass through effort." We should take these words to heart in our quest for peace and freedom. These great aspirations of humanity will be brought about—but only by devoted human effort.

Concord is a symbol of the faith, the courage, the sacrifice on which the victory of freedom depends. We in our day must strive with the same dedication that brought the militia men to the Concord bridge. If we do so, freedom will surely prevail.

Thank you very much.

[At this point the broadcast ended. The President then resumed speaking to the members of the Society.]

To give you my feeling about what I would like to say now, I will tell you a story of when I was a young lieutenant in a regiment on the Mexican border. There was not a great deal to do in those days, and some people indulged in acquaintanceship with John Barleycorn more than they should.

One morning a couple of us young second lieutenants were up as usual long before the captains were, and we were standing by one captain's tent as he got his feet out of the bunk. He was sitting there on the edge of it with his head in his hands, and he says: "I am nothing but a mountain goat. All I do is jump from jag to jag."

Now any man who through 35 minutes or 30 minutes has been trying to hit the high spots of the world today, and America's position in the international situation, certainly feels that he has been jumping from jag to jag on the mountain tops.

So I wanted rather to come off the summit of those high spots and talk with you for just a few minutes about some of the very great intricacies in this problem that we call developing foreign policies and in implementing them throughout the world.

Now I think there is no use explaining the cold war. We all have pretty clear ideas of what is going on. But one thing that we do worry about is: who is winning and who is losing?

Well, I don't think anybody knows, because the situation differs in every single corner of the globe. I have heard many people at home here say that we are losing the cold war every day. Others take exactly the opposite view, and these more hopeful ones can point to some facts rather than merely allegations about

our prestige abroad, or how many friends do we have, and that sort of thing.

For example, why was there such a sudden change in the Soviet policy? Their basic aim is to conquer the world, through world revolution if possible, but in any way. Anyone that has read any of their books knows that their doctrine is lies, deceit, subversion, war if necessary, but in any way: conquer the world. And that has not changed.

But they changed their policies very markedly. They were depending on force and the threat of force only. And suddenly they have gone into an entirely different attitude. They are going into the economic and political fields and are really wearing smiles around the world instead of some of the bitter faces to which we have become accustomed.

Now any time a policy is winning and the people are completely satisfied with it, you don't change. You change policies that markedly, you destroy old idols as they have been busy doing, only when you think a great change is necessary. So I think we can take some comfort; at least we can give careful consideration to the very fact they had to change their policies.

And I think the whole free world is trying to test and determine the sincerity of that plan, in order that the free nations themselves, in pursuing their own policies, will make certain that they are not surprised in any place.

We look at some of the advances we think they have made, but let us remember: they did not conquer Korea, which they announced they were going to do. They were stopped finally in the northern part of Vietnam; and Diem, the leader of the Southern Vietnamese, is doing splendidly and a much better figure in that field than anyone even dared to hope.

The Iranian situation which only a few short years ago looked so desperate that each morning we thought we would wake up and read in our newspapers that Mossadegh had let them under the Iron Curtain, has not become satisfactory, but that crisis has passed and it is much better.

The difficulty in Egypt between our British friends and our Egyptian friends over the big base was finally settled.

The Trieste problem which had plagued the world for many years, if not an ideal solution, has had a practical solution. The first bridgehead that Communism had succeeded, or practically succeeded in establishing in our hemisphere, has been thrown out.

These are cold war victories, because the purposes of the Russians were defeated.

Now they have attempted to go into economic fields, and here their unity of action, brought about by the fact they are a single government, is creating new problems.

A group of free nations can stay together fairly easily when you have got a definite threat to their very existence right in their faces. As long as the Germans, for example, were powerful and aggressive in Europe in the Second World War, there was no great trouble in keeping the other nations pretty well together in policy and in action. But when those are lifted and you go into the economic field, each of us—each country—has its own economic problems of itself; now it becomes very difficult for a group of free nations through spontaneous cooperation to achieve a unity to oppose the other man.

Let me take one example, just to show you how these things work out. Let us take Japan. There is no one in this room that needs a blueprint of how important it is to us that Japan stay outside the Iron Curtain. A nation of 90 million industrious and inventive people, tied in with Communist China and with the Soviets, would indeed pose a threat to us that would be very grave indeed.

Japan is 90 million people living on fewer arable acres than there are in the State of California. How are they going to live? Well, they have got to trade. They have got to deal with other people outside. We won't trade with them; every day—well, if not every day, every week, there come to government, including to my desk, pleas for greater protection against Japanese goods.

Now this is not wholly one-sided, because some of our citizens have found out that last year—I think my figures are correct—while we were buying 60 million dollars' worth of cotton textile goods from Japan, they bought 120 million dollars' worth of our cotton. So even that problem is not clear in exactly what you should do.

But anyway, we won't trade with them, so they can't make a living with us except on a minor scale. But we get tired, properly—we can't be trying to sustain any other nation just with our money—so we don't just give them the millions by which they can go and buy all the things they need abroad.

But the next thing we come up against: we are very certain in our own minds that some of these nations—not all the United States people, but some of them, are very loud in their denunciation of any country that trades with the communist countries. So the Japanese can't trade with their natural markets, with Manchuria and China. Finally all of those southeastern markets—all the southeastern Asian markets have been largely destroyed—they are so poor they can't support Japan.

So what does Japan do? Where are we chasing her? Chasing her to one place. She has to look less and less to us and more to the mainland next to her. She has to, now, begin to look rather longingly, unless something is done. Now that is the kind of cross-purpose that comes up, and this goes on around the world. Britain and France and Germany, indeed every country with which we deal, has some problem different economically from our own.

So we have a real job in trying to get agreed policies among the free nations and then to implement them.

And I come, then, to the real purpose for asking you people to listen to me for a few minutes more after my rather long, prepared address.

It is this: Our nation is called to leadership—and I am not going to argue the point, I know you all understand—leadership in the world, to lead it towards freedom, to keep expanding our

areas of freedom and not allow the communist cloud to engulf us little by little.

Now when a nation leads, it is not enough that even an entire government, legislative and executive, should see this problem as one. That doesn't make it a truly national policy in anything that is as long-term, as vital, as is required in national leadership of the whole world. Every citizen has a job that he cannot delegate. He cannot delegate it to the most powerful and the most influential political leaders. He must take his part in getting himself informed.

What I want to say is this: there is nothing more important in the world today than that America—167 million Americans—shall be informed on the basic facts in this whole struggle.

We ought to get it as far away from demagoguery, from political partisanship, from every extraneous influence that we possibly can. Just get the naked truth to these people with interpretation through editorial pages, and so on, to let them see the relation of one fact to another.

There are no easy panaceas. You can't say: "We simply won't trade with the communist nations"—make that work for all of us. In fact, to make such a statement is, to my mind, giving up one of the great strengths for which the Yankee has always been noted: he is a good trader.

In that kind of trade, who gets the best of it?

We should think of those things and not try to pull out any slogan, any single idea, that will meet this situation. But of all things, it is necessary to get the facts to the American people.

The other is to get, so far as we possibly can, the facts of America's purposes—her intentions, her disinterested motives, her lack of ambition for other territory and increased domination—to the world. We must get it out to the world.

This is difficult, because all over the world we don't have you people. We don't have American newspapers. Some of our wire services reach part way, but very inadequately. The United States Information Service is merely to help. It would

be far better did we not have to depend on it at all. It should even itself depend on private media wherever it can reach them in other countries.

This information should go out abroad just as at home, through the processes of a free press so far as possible, and government should only support that effort.

One more point, and I am finished.

The world changes, and in these days it changes rapidly. A policy that was good six months ago is not necessarily now of any validity. It is necessary that we find better, more effective, ways of keeping ourselves in tune with the world's needs, and helping to educate the world to know that it itself—each nation—must do the major part of the job. Any outsider can merely be helpful, can give moral and some little physical support—material support.

But the sums that we put out are a bagatelle compared to what is needed and what these people, most of them impoverished, must provide for themselves if the whole free world is to advance.

Now through different kinds of means, one of which, I should think, would be getting together and keeping a sort of rotating advisory body, citizens who are not burdened with the general and never-ending cares of office must devote their brains to the job in partnership with government. We must constantly keep “up to snuff” because if we don’t, we are bound to lose. We must be ahead of the problem. We must see its major parts. We must get its critical factors set up so that we understand them thoroughly in simple fashion, and then we must pursue a common course vigorously, persistently, and with readiness to make whatever sacrifices may be demanded.

And then, I say, we will be worthy of the farmers of Concord.

I apologize again for taking so much of your time. Thank you, and good night.

NOTE: The President's opening words referred to Kenneth Mac-Donald, President of the American Society of Newspaper Editors, and Mrs. MacDonald, and the Chief Justice of the United States and Mrs. Warren.

88 ¶ The President's News Conference of April 25, 1956.

THE PRESIDENT. Please be seated. We will go right to questions.

Q. Merriman Smith, United Press: Mr. President, the Communist leader Khrushchev in London says that Russia will soon have guided missiles with H-bomb warheads capable of hitting every point or any point in the world. Now, Governor Stassen last night in London talked with Mr. Khrushchev on disarmament issues, and Mr. Stassen said he was sending you an immediate report.

I wonder if you could tell us first, sir, how you evaluate the Khrushchev statement, and second, have you heard from Governor Stassen?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I will answer it in reverse order because I know the exact answer. Yes, I heard from Governor Stassen, had his report this morning, which is long enough to require more study than I have been able to give it before I would want to comment on it at any length.

Now, I know of no reason why the Soviets should be making misstatements in this field, and certainly I don't accuse them of any such thing. But I do want to point out there is a very, very long distance between a laboratory capacity or capability of doing something and making an instrument, a really efficient, effective instrument of war.

These instruments are, of course, very expensive, require elaborate guiding equipment, and we know how expensive these things are when you put them on airplanes. So it is not a simple matter that we are talking about when we are talking about these things that are useful in the event of war.

Q. Ray L. Scherer, National Broadcasting Company: Mr. President, could you give us any specific views on how NATO might be broadened politically and economically?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, no, I couldn't give you specifically, Mr. Scherer, for this reason: here is something that I have been interested in for the past 4 or 5 years, and I have always believed that a greater usefulness was inherent in the organization that was established by the NATO nations than was to be represented merely in its usefulness as a military organization. Now, the Secretary of State, at the meeting just within a few days—the NATO meeting—is going to make certain proposals, and they will be there discussed, and if there is any agreement among the NATO nations, why, then, it will be published.

Q. Raymond P. Brandt, *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*: Mr. President, could you amplify your thought of Saturday night about the board of rotating members on foreign aid and foreign policy?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I wasn't talking so much of foreign policy in its, you might say, theoretical or abstract sense as I was on foreign aid of all kinds, because here is such a big field.

I am not ready to amplify it particularly, Mr. Brandt, for this reason: there are a number of people that have had ideas in this field, and I am trying to correlate them, get them together and see if we are all thinking along the same lines. I do believe that we need a more disinterested, let us call it bipartisan, or unpartisan, or whatever you want to call it, study of these very major problems.

Officials, whether elected or appointed, or whether in Congress or in executive departments, are busy. They are always busy trying to get their desks cleared for the day. There is very little time in Government, as you know, for thinking, for contemplating, for pondering, and that has to be done.

Q. Mr. Brandt: May I ask another question? Will that be in time for this present session to help your recommendations?

THE PRESIDENT. I wouldn't think that you could do anything like this hurriedly. I believe if we get such a thing established, I would like to do it with the greatest possible cooperation of everybody that has an interest in the Government. And I believe it will take quite a while before we have it.

Q. Mr. Brandt: Have you got any reports from Congress that your bill is in good shape?

THE PRESIDENT. I haven't put in a bill.

Oh, you mean the foreign aid?

Q. Mr. Brandt: The foreign aid.

THE PRESIDENT. Oh. Well, all I get are reports that they are studying it. There is some opposition, always is. And there are some people supporting it. Some people of course think that we are being far too meager in what we're proposing. So just how it will come out, I wouldn't predict at this moment.

Q. Robert E. Clark, International News Service: Mr. President, Khrushchev and Bulganin indicated the other day that they would like to pay a visit to this country some time after the election. Can you tell us how you feel about this idea of their coming to the United States?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I didn't note that, and so I haven't made any formed conclusions on it. I wouldn't want to be quoted as meaning that I couldn't change my mind, but as of this moment, I see no useful purpose to be served.

I think that the particular issues in which there should be some agreement are well understood. They were thoroughly discussed at Geneva. They were discussed by the foreign ministers in October last, and I think until there is some new idea brought forward, there will be very little use of repeating such a visit.

Q. Carleton Kent, Chicago Sun-Times: Mr. President, have you formed any conclusion on the suggestion that the United States and her allies distribute foreign aid through the United Nations? If so, could you discuss it for a minute?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, the United States has always been, I think, by far the biggest contributor to important matters of this kind in the United Nations. I believe we have put in 50 percent, at least, of the money that has gone into the technical assistance program of the United Nations, and I think we pay 60 percent of the freight in the child welfare program.

We would be very happy to see the United Nations take a bigger and firmer hold and get more nations that are capable of contributing, more nations into the thing, if for no other reason than to make certain there was no political purpose behind it.

In the meantime, we are constantly studying our own methods to see how we can promote mutuality of interests and not merely be in the position of attempting to dictate or to bribe somebody.

Far from seeing anything against it, I would be in favor of seeing the United Nations take a more active interest in this business.

Q. David P. Sentner, Hearst Newspapers: Mr. President, would you care to comment on the revised highway bill which is about to be taken up by the House?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I can't comment on it too much, because while I talked about it yesterday, I am not sufficiently aware of all its details to discuss it at any great length.

Anyway, I rarely discuss details of legislation until I finally see it in its finished form. I have learned that a bill that comes out of Congress often bears little resemblance to the way it went in. But I still stick to this one thing: we need highways badly, very badly, and I am in favor of any forward, constructive step in this field.

Q. Charles S. von Fremd, CBS News: Mr. President, many Republicans on Capitol Hill are now saying openly that they think the Democratic-controlled Congress is a do-nothing Congress. Are you beginning to agree with them in this?

THE PRESIDENT. I have never indulged in that kind of talk. People that are accustomed to partisan bickerings, why, I suppose they have things they want to say. As far as I am concerned, I don't challenge anybody else's motives. I want to get results through thrashing out things on the anvil of logic and good sense, what is good for America. That is my sole purpose. I am not going to challenge anybody else's motives.

Q. William H. Lawrence, New York Times: Some time ago, Mr. President, you told us that you had asked Vice President

Nixon to chart his own course and then report back to you. Has he done this?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, he hasn't reported back in the terms in which I used the expression that morning, no.

Q. Sarah McClendon, *El Paso Times*: Mr. President, I wonder if you think it is quite fair to give price support to corn farmers when they are not under the limitations of acreage controls, and not do the same thing for the cotton farmer or the wheat farmer.

THE PRESIDENT. One thing that made the corn farmer considerably different from others was the fact that the high supports of wheat and the low supports on corn finally had the corn market in almost a debacle, because there were so few farmers really participating.

Now, trying to handle agriculture across the board, the administration proposed, as you know, a 9-point program last January. They have been working very hard to get it through. Failing to get that bill, and particularly in time to do any good now, we had to take measures that we would be far from recommending as an alltime or a permanent thing, but we had to take measures that did recognize the situation which agriculture and its important parts had reached.

Q. Charles E. Shutt, *Telenews*: It has been suggested, sir, that a possible Summit conference might effect a settlement, a peaceful one, in the Mid-East. Do you think that would be a good idea, and would you be willing to participate in such a meeting, sir?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, first of all, I repeat what I have said so many times. Where I think it would promote peace, I will meet with anybody and practically anywhere, as long as it is in keeping with the dignity and the self-respect of this country.

Now, I don't know among whom this Summit conference that you speak of is supposed to take place. Was it to be the head of Israel and the head of Egypt and Britain and a few more that are interested in the area, or who was it?

Q. Mr. Shutt: France and Russia and the United States included, sir, including Russia on the basis that of some——

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I will only say this: in all such proposals, as always, you have to take a look at all the details that are placed before you, what is the purpose, what is the way in which people are coming there; if you think it would be a useful thing, then, of course, I would always do it. But I would have to be convinced it were useful.

Q. Ruth Montgomery, International News Service: Mr. President, Democratic strategists here last weekend decided that from now on they were going to make you the direct target of all their attacks instead of members of your Cabinet. Do you have any comment on that?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I think it is perfectly correct. I am the head of the administration, and I have been shot at before. [Laughter]

Q. Rowland Evans, New York Herald Tribune: Back on missiles for a second, sir, could you tell us, one, whether you think it is very important that the United States achieve an accurate long-range missile before the Soviet Union; and two, if you do think that is important, could you tell us why?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, frankly, one of the great reasons is psychological in this field. We have been very busy, the whole world, in developing weapons of very great destruction. One of them is the great, fast bomber, armed with these new types of explosive weapons and flying at such heights and such speeds that interception is very, very difficult indeed.

So there has developed a great power for destruction that as long as both sides have it probably tends to work as a deterrent both ways. When you bring in the guided missile, you bring it in as a reinforcement to a capacity that exists. You can make your own judgment whether it exists in sufficient force, but it does exist. So the guided missile, then, would be to reinforce that capacity for destruction.

Now, I do believe this: you can scarcely overemphasize the

psychological value of such a weapon, because it has sort of a terrifying, let us say, result upon the human mind to think of something flying off through space at several times the speed of sound and at tremendous altitudes, and coming down then with these great hydrogen bomb bursts. It would be a terrific thing. But as I pointed out, those things are not simple. They are very expensive, and it will take a long time to produce them, even after the secret is first achieved.

Q. Mr. Evans: Could I ask one more question?

THE PRESIDENT. All right.

Q. Mr. Evans: Do you still say as you did in February that the United States is making the maximum effort? There are Democrats who say we are not.

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I am sorry you said "Democrats." There are lots of people saying we are not. [*Laughter*] But there are only so many scientists, there are only so many facilities, and you get to a point where mere expenditure of money in a field like this does no good. My own conviction, supported by that of many, many experts, is that in this field we are somewhere certainly around the limit.

Now, no man, I believe, in the world would say by just doing one thing more somebody out in the woods might find out something, but as far as the employment of the best scientists in several different areas, in several different groupments, is concerned, we are working at top speed on this whole thing.

Q. Mrs. May Craig, Portland (Maine) Press Herald: Mr. President, Mr. Stevenson and one of the members of the Atomic Energy Commission have suggested that the United States should halt its tests of the H-bomb. Would you comment on that?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I usually ask you people not to quote someone else when you want me to talk, because I don't comment on somebody else's opinion. They are entitled to their own opinions. But I do want to point this out: it is a little bit of a paradox to urge that we work just as hard as we know how on the guided missile and that we stop all research on the hydrogen bomb, be-

cause one without the other is rather useless. So we go ahead with this hydrogen bomb—not to make a bigger bang, not to cause more destruction—to find out ways and means in which you can limit it, make it useful in defensive purposes, of shooting against a fleet of airplanes that are coming over, to reduce fallout, to make it more of a military weapon and less one just of mass destruction.

We know we can make them big. We are not interested in that any more. So this whole thing goes together: the guided missile, with an expensive thing that is a one-shot thing, is really effective because it has a tremendous blow when it gets to the end of it. So if you don't work on one and get the right kind of explosive to use there, why work on the other?

So I think research without test is perfectly useless, a waste of money. And, goodness knows, I don't want to do this. If the world would allow us to put the money in schools and all the rest of the things, we all know what would result, the great benefit of mankind. But as long as we have to do it, let's do it right as best we know how.

Q. Edward P. Morgan, American Broadcasting Company: Mr. President, you seemed to be so much more at home in your off-the-cuff remarks to the editors the other night than in your prepared speech that I dare to ask this question:

Have you had time to ponder the problems of communicating Government purpose and policy to the ordinary citizen? Official statements always seem to have to be so general. Mr. Dulles said the other day that it is time to raise NATO to the totality of its meaning. Democrats undoubtedly could furnish similar vague statements on their side.

Have you any suggestions as to how to improve political semantics?

THE PRESIDENT. You know, you must stick to small words when you're talking to me. [*Laughter*]

The reason that I made my off-the-cuff talk was to try to convey to editors, to the press in general, to all media of mass com-

munications, that there is a terrific responsibility resting on everybody in this country, not merely on Government, not merely on the President, or not merely on the Congress.

If a nation is going to lead, I point out again, it is absolutely impossible for the individual to delegate his responsibilities in the field to political figures, even the most trusted. We must know, because a policy doesn't become translated into national leadership until the nation is truly leading.

Now, the nation expresses itself through its elected heads and through its Congress, and so on, but we need an understanding in this country of what is going on in the world, what are the troubles, what are the difficulties, why can't we make better progress?

I'd put it this way: I know of nothing more important than that the United States gain a constantly improving understanding of what are the main difficulties in the world, what are the principal ways of attacking those difficulties so we can achieve a program of peace.

So my first statement is merely this: that it isn't just on Congress, it isn't on the Democrats or on the Republicans, it isn't on the President alone. They have very great and responsible duties. But it is on everybody who sees or believes he sees some of the basic factors in this problem and has some little ability or opportunity to explain them to others, because they are very, very serious.

Q. Chalmers M. Roberts, Washington Post and Times Herald: Mr. President, some time ago you described to us on the arms control issue what you considered to be the opposing approaches of the U. S. and the Soviet Union on the control problem. Was there anything in Governor Stassen's report that would indicate any sign of change on the Soviet approach?

THE PRESIDENT. Not so far as I have seen. As I say, I have not studied the entire report and I can't say that there isn't something in the fine print I haven't read yet. But as far as I know, there has been no change in the approach to the problem.

Q. Elie Abel, *New York Times*: Mr. President, on this matter, sir, getting back to the question of communicating with Congress in this case, there seems to be very considerable apprehension in Congress over this foreign aid thing, particularly the long-term commitment feature, and any number of responsible congressional leaders have been telling us that they don't understand precisely what this commitment is to mean and precisely how it is to operate.

Could you expand a little bit, sir, on what kind of project specifically you have in mind and what kind of authority you would settle for?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, first of all, it is quite clear that one Congress cannot commit another. Any policy in the United States has to have yearly appropriations to carry it out, and there is no disposition to try to ignore those facts in the problem. But a nation wants to start a great dam or a great school system, both of which you think would be very important in bringing it along into a position where it could support freedom, could raise its economy to the position it could.

Now, you say, "All right. We will give you X million dollars a year to help this out. We will take some of it in a loan, we will take some in soft currency and spend it in your country, with regular arrangements."

But they say, "All right. That is all right for this year. But how about next? There is an election in the United States."

Well, all that you are asking for and all you can ask for in a long-term commitment is that you take such projects as that, enumerate them, specifying them if you want to, but generally classifying them rather than enumerating them, because you don't know when one will come up. And for a very small part of this sum—I believe we said \$100 million, is all—let Congress announce its intention to support that kind of an approach, which doesn't do anything for the future except it convinces the other fellow with whom we are dealing that the United States as a whole, not just the President, not just the Secretary of State, believes in this sort

of long-range help in this particular type problem. That is all there is to it. There is no additional authority except it is the backup; it is the backup by Congress of a commitment the President would normally have to make by himself.

Q. Roscoe Drummond, New York Herald Tribune: Mr. President, may I ask another question about Mr. Nixon? Even though he may not have replied to you in the same terms that you used at the press conference, I would like to ask if he had replied in any manner which gives to you an impression as to whether he would like to be renominated?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I am not going to talk about impressions, Mr. Drummond, for the simple reason that a fellow can get those rather erroneously at times. At least, they have about me, at times.

I would say this: he hasn't given me any authority to quote him, any answer that I would consider final and definitive.

Q. Edwin L. Dale, New York Times: Mr. President, it has been rather widely reported that your Secretary of the Treasury and Chief Economic Adviser both had serious reservations about the latest increase in interest rates by the Federal Reserve. There is a rather long history of this situation. I wonder if you have any comment on it.

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I think the only comment I can logically make is this: the Federal Reserve Board is set up as a separate agency of Government. It is not under the authority of the President, and I really personally believe it would be a mistake to make it definitely and directly responsible to the political head of the state.

The Federal Reserve Board had the unanimous conclusions of their eleven district boards that this rediscount rate ought to be raised, and after studying the whole situation they decided to go ahead and do it.

Now, of course, the thing was argued for a long time. Certain individuals had viewpoints on the opposite sides of the fence. But having done it, I do have this confidence in the Federal

Reserve Board: they are watching this situation day by day. They are watching whether money dries up, because there are two things about money: one, it gets a little dearer in its cost to the borrower; the other is that it is just not there to borrow. They are watching it very closely, and I personally believe that if money gets to what is normally referred to as too tight, they will move in the other direction in some way or other as soon as they can.

Q. Marvin L. Arrowsmith, Associated Press: Mr. President, on the basis of the latest reports to you, could you tell us what you think the prospects at this time are for a tax reduction during this session of Congress?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I have discussed this with you people before. I see, so far, no logical reason for reducing taxes, and I really believe it would be not to the good interests of America to reduce them at the moment.

We are in a time of very high income. We certainly must be able to run our Government now without going into debt to do it or we never will. And I want to point out, in each of the past two years we have had to get a temporary increase in the debt limit to tide us over the months, the fall months, when income is low and outgo is high so that we run up to something like two hundred eighty-one or two billion, but always with the compulsion to be back to two seventy-five by June 30th, which we are doing again this year.

As long as we have that situation, if we can get a billion or a billion and a half or something of that order in advance, I think it is only prudence—I think it is what any housewife in the United States and any manager of a business would do—to put that much aside to keep himself solvent.

Q. William Theis, International News Service: Mr. President, would you like to give us your reaction to yesterday's presidential primary results?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, they have only showed me one, and that

was in—no, they showed me two, one in Pennsylvania, one in Massachusetts.

I can only say, I am still astonished any time anyone votes for me, and very grateful.

Q. Robert L. Riggs, Louisville Courier-Journal: Mr. President, you were put on television Monday night by Senator Johnson in his own speech. Do you think the excerpts he used from your 1952 speech accurately reflected your views at that time on the farm question?

THE PRESIDENT. I won't talk about what anybody else said, but I will tell you what I said in 1952, time and time again.

I said that there was a law on the books that provided 90-percent rigid price supports for those basic crops through the end of '54. I said that law would not be disturbed for the simple reason that it would take that long to get all of the farm organizations and the farm authorities and the administration and everybody else together to work out a new plan. So that would not be disturbed, and I was for it, going to stay that way without any equivocation whatsoever.

I said, from there on, the goal we must have is to work for 100 percent of parity for the farmer in the market place. I said that over and over again, meaning that we must get the supply and demand so adjusted that the farmer was getting a good price without depending upon these 90-percent or 80-percent or any other kind of supports from the Government.

I went through this time and time again, and I think if you will follow through all these speeches, it never varied, because it was what I believed then. It is what I believe now.

Q. Lawrence Fernsworth, Concord (New Hampshire) Monitor: Mr. President, for several weeks past, the newspapers have printed charges that a Columbia University professor, Jesus Galindez, was assassinated by agents of the Trujillo dictatorship.

THE PRESIDENT. By whom?

Q. Mr. Fernsworth: The Trujillo dictatorship of the Dominican Republic.

Yesterday a group of Columbia University professors requested the Justice Department to investigate these charges.

The question is, in your view, is it incumbent on the Department of Justice to determine the truth or falsity of charges that agents of a dictatorship which enjoys diplomatic immunity here are assassinating persons under the protection of the United States flag?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, you have laid down a problem of which I haven't heard. But I will say this: the Justice Department would have no authority in a foreign country. Anything that you did in a foreign country would have to be taken up with the State Department. That is your communication.

Now, I have no doubt if there are any grounds at all for the State Department believing that an American citizen has been unjustly treated, particularly in the way you are talking about, that there will be——[*laughter*]

What I meant to do was cover the entire field of injustice done [*laughter*] and not merely this one of extreme character.

But then it is the State Department's duty to investigate and demand an explanation of the whole thing, and what would happen I don't know, because I don't know anything about this case.

Q. Mr. Fernsworth: Sir, the assassination was supposed to have occurred in the city of New York.

THE PRESIDENT. New York?

Q. Mr. Fernsworth: Yes, sir.

THE PRESIDENT. Well, then, I suppose it would be—I thought you meant down in Santo Domingo.

No. I will have to find out about that. I don't know a thing about it.

Q. James B. Reston, New York Times: Mr. President, can you tell us whether there is any connection between the disturbing situation in the Middle East and your dispatch of four destroyers to that part of the world?

THE PRESIDENT. No, there isn't except in this sense, that we

are always keeping forces in the Mediterranean, as you well know. It is our hope that they have a stabilizing influence, because it is also our hope that all the world knows that we are not trying to pick up the gage of anybody's quarrel against somebody else.

We are not trying to expand our own authority or our own influence anywhere. We are simply trying to keep the peace.

So if you can say that they have any relationship at all, it is merely wherever our forces are, whether they are in Formosa, whether they are in the Japanese area, whether they are in the Mediterranean, it is always in the hope of keeping stability.

Merriman Smith, United Press: Thank you, Mr. President.

NOTE: President Eisenhower's eighty-fifth news conference was held in the Executive Office Building from 10:31 to 11:02 o'clock on Wednesday morning, April 25, 1956. In attendance: 229.

89 ¶ Letter to Percival F. Brundage, Director,
Bureau of the Budget, on the Hoover Commission
Report on Budget and Accounting.

April 29, 1956

[Released April 29, 1956. Dated April 26, 1956]

Dear Mr. Brundage:

I have reviewed your analysis of the Hoover Commission's Report on Budget and Accounting, transmitted with your letter of April 23, 1956. Your plans for carrying out the Commission's recommendations represent a constructive approach toward realizing the Commission's objective of strengthening the budget and accounting processes of the Federal Government.

The Hoover Commission's Report on Federal budgeting and accounting is a document of great public significance. I join the citizens of the Nation in thanking the Commission for this as well

as for the other important studies which it has made. Moreover, because the formulation and administration of the Federal Budget are vital responsibilities of the Chief Executive, I am especially and personally appreciative of the contribution which Mr. Hoover and his distinguished associates have made in proposing improvements in budget and accounting systems which will enable more effective management and control of the programs administered by the executive branch.

I consider it desirable and necessary that the executive departments and agencies intensify their efforts, along the lines indicated in your analysis, to establish budget and accounting systems that will provide better financial information and enable both the improvement of our budget presentations and the strengthening of our budget controls. In addition, I approve of your plans to have the Bureau of the Budget give greater emphasis in its work to the evaluation and advancement of administration in the executive agencies, as a means of more rapidly bringing about improvement in organization and management, including more effective budgeting and accounting practices, throughout the executive branch.

I commend to the Congress its consideration of those Hoover Commission budget and accounting proposals which are particularly pertinent to the role and functions of the Congress, with the assurance that the executive branch will cooperate fully in actions to strengthen the appropriation and financial control processes of the legislative branch.

Sincerely,

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

NOTE: In releasing the exchange of letters between the President and Mr. Brundage, the White House announced that two of the recommendations were already in effect: No. 1, which called for an expansion of the Bureau of the Budget in order to

make more effective the discharge of its managerial and budgeting functions; and No. 10, which proposed that there be established under the Director of the Bureau of the Budget a new Staff Office of Accounting headed by an Assistant Director for

Accounting. The White House announcement also states that many of the other proposals of the Budget and Accounting report were also being adopted at once and others were being discussed with the Congress and the other departments of

the executive branch.

Mr. Brundage's letter and the analysis are published in "Hearings on Supplemental Appropriation Bill, 1957, Before the Subcommittee of the Committee on Appropriations, House of Representatives," Part II.

90 ¶ Special Message to the Congress Transmitting Report on Rubber Requirements and Resources. *April 30, 1956*

To the Congress of the United States:

Section 10 of the Rubber Producing Facilities Disposal Act of 1953 requires that "at the expiration of one year after the transfer period or as soon thereafter as the Congress is in session, the President shall report to the Congress concerning the Nation's rubber requirements and resources, and the need, if any, for further research by the Government relative to the production or use of synthetic rubber and its component materials."

DISPOSAL OF SYNTHETIC RUBBER PLANTS

A year has now elapsed since the transfer to private owners, April 29, 1955, of 24 of the 27 Government-owned synthetic rubber producing facilities. During this year two additional facilities have been disposed of, in accordance with amendments to the Disposal Act, and legislation has recently been enacted which authorizes sale of the only remaining Government plant, now under lease.

In my message to the Congress of April 14, 1953 recommending rubber producing facilities disposal legislation, I pointed out that such disposal must be consistent with three objectives: "In the first place the Government should realize their full fair value; secondly, disposal should be effected in such a way as to

insure to the consuming public, and to large and small rubber fabricators the benefits of fair competition; and, finally, to insure against the hazards of unforeseeable contingencies, the facilities must be sold on such terms as will guarantee their ready availability for the production of synthetic rubber in time of emergency.”

I am pleased to be able to report to the Congress that all three of the above objectives of the disposal program appear to have been achieved to a highly satisfactory degree.

As respects the first point, the synthetic rubber facilities were built during World War II at a cost of approximately \$700,000,000. After plant operations over the years and disposal of some of the facilities in the 1946–1950 period had recovered more than half of this investment, the recent disposal of 26 plants for \$285,000,000 has resulted in the recovery of the entire remaining investment, and, beyond this, yielded to the United States Treasury an additional \$22,500,000. This does not include such additional returns as may come from the sale or lease of the alcohol butadiene plant at Louisville, and disposal of the Government Laboratories at Akron. Plant disposal, signaling the end of Government production and marketing of synthetic rubber, has also freed approximately \$162,000,000 of working capital formerly committed to plant operations.

From the all-important security angle, not only have all sales been made with a national security clause which guarantees availability for rubber production in time of emergency, but the plants, in general, are now operating intensively and already have effected marked increases in capacity. Synthetic rubber has become a highly viable private industry; facilities are being expanded and technical advances and progress toward the development of new rubbers are being made.

Government agencies having responsibilities relative to this industry and its consuming public have been alert to note any adverse effects of the substitution of private for Government supply. To date only two requests for assistance have been

received. Both of these were handled with suppliers to the satisfaction of the customers.

The details of the Nation's rubber requirements and resources have been reviewed, as background for this report, by an ad hoc Rubber Committee of the Office of Defense Mobilization, on which were staff members of the Departments of Commerce, Defense, Interior, and Treasury, the Rubber Producing Facilities Disposal Commission, and the National Science Foundation. The findings of this Committee constitute Appendix A of the attached report to me from the Director of the Office of Defense Mobilization.

Appendix B is a report on research needs and the future relationship of the Government to rubber research. This report was made to the National Science Foundation by its Special Commission for Rubber Research and was approved by the National Science Board in December, 1955.

RUBBER REQUIREMENTS AND RESOURCES

According to the estimates prepared by the ODM ad hoc Rubber Committee, total United States' requirements for new rubber (natural and synthetic) may by 1960 reach a level of about 1,700,000 tons—or equal to total new rubber requirements, for United States' productive capacity for synthetic rubber was already more than 1,250,000 tons. By January 1, 1958, reported planned expansions would bring synthetic capacity to about 1,700,000 tons—or equal to total new rubber requirements, for both synthetic and natural, as estimated for 1960.

The planned expansions referred to are to some degree dependent on the growth of demand in this country and overseas. They include commitments already reduced to definite contracts; but also less definite expectations which may not come to fruition. In a broad sense, however, these steps reflect the policy of the industry to assure that the future supplies of synthetic rubber will be ample to meet all demands.

At the present time a part of the rubber requirements of the

United States can be met only by natural rubber. Use of natural rubber in the United States has become of secondary magnitude, however, compared with its use abroad. Should the world natural rubber supply not be large enough to meet both United States and foreign requirements, there are such possibilities for increasing foreign use of synthetic rubber, either through larger export from an abundant American supply or through construction of foreign capacity, that there should be no enduring shortage of natural rubber available for the United States. If such a shortage should nevertheless occur, American industry would have the alternative of further increasing its use of synthetic rubber.

Under the Strategic and Critical Materials Stock Piling Act, the United States is maintaining a stockpile of natural rubber adequate to supply military and essential civilian requirements during an emergency notwithstanding interruptions of supply. This stockpiled natural rubber, plus the potential output of our synthetic plants, will be ample for rubber mobilization needs as very recently estimated by ODM.

Although the United States has overcome one of its gravest pre-World War II strategic weaknesses by establishing an industry for producing synthetic rubber and a strategic stockpile of natural rubber, it must not be overlooked that natural rubber is still the world's chief rubber resource, supplying over two-thirds of the world's new rubber requirements. Even the United States, where 60 percent of the rubber now used is synthetic, imports and consumes as much natural rubber as before World War II.

In view of the ever-expanding needs of rubber consumers, the synthetic rubber industry is bound to continue rapid growth in the immediate future; because new synthetic capacity can be created in one-third the time required to bring rubber trees to maturity, and some of the demand for additional rubber will come too early to be met by expansion of natural rubber production. In the long run, however, the greatly improved techniques

now available for natural rubber production should make it possible for producers of natural rubber to share in supplying the ever-growing rubber demand.

RUBBER RESEARCH

The report to the National Science Foundation from its Special Commission for Rubber Research (entitled "Recommended Future Role of the Federal Government with Respect to Research in Synthetic Rubber") is addressed primarily to the question as to what should be done with respect to two phases of the Government's synthetic rubber program, both presently the responsibility of the Foundation: (1) Government support of rubber research conducted by universities and other research organizations; and (2) the Government Laboratories at Akron, which have been engaged in developing the production characteristics and feasibility of new types of rubber.

The National Science Foundation's Special Commission holds that increasing financial support of fundamental research by the Federal Government is essential to the national interest, but that the Foundation should not request funds from the Congress for research specifically for rubber or the rubber industry. It feels that a far better focus for Government research would be polymers in general (of which rubber and elastomers generally are only examples).

The Commission therefore recommends termination of National Science Foundation's program of Government-sponsored rubber research projects as such, but conservation of some of the human and scientific assets developed, through early inauguration by National Science Foundation of a more general research program.

The Commission found that, although the Akron Laboratories include large-scale pilot plant facilities, these are not unique in the rubber industry. The Commission therefore recommended disposal of the laboratories.

This recommendation and that to terminate the Government-

sponsored rubber research program now administered by the National Science Foundation have my approval.

SYNTHETIC "NATURAL" RUBBER

In its report, the Special Commission goes beyond the subject of research and urges that immediate consideration be given, at the highest Government levels, to the question as to whether the national security requires governmental action to foster the *industrial development* of the new processes of synthesizing "natural" rubber. The Commission had earlier observed that three companies have reported success in synthesizing material with composition and properties similar to natural rubber.

Inasmuch as the United States already has an adequate stockpile of natural rubber, there is, in this connection, no immediate security problem. In the long run, however, maintenance of security would be vastly simplified if we could—if need be—produce types of rubber domestically which could take the place of natural rubber in large truck, bus and airplane tires. The newly synthesized rubbers hold this promise.

It is believed that we can rely upon the private synthetic rubber industry to move from laboratory synthesis to commercial production of synthetic "natural" rubber. Pilot plants are already being constructed on private initiative. The nature of the problems which may arise when quantity production is contemplated is as yet undefined.

The Government has available a number of means for assisting industrial development and expansion where such aid is found to be essential to national security. It is not now expected that any unique measures, such as would require new legislation, will need to be taken with reference to the development of capacity to produce synthetic "natural" rubber.

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

NOTE: The President's report and the in House Document 391 (84th attached appendixes are published Cong., 2d sess.).

91 ¶ Statement by the President Upon Signing
Bill Providing Improved Career Incentives for
Medical and Dental Officers. *April 30, 1956*

I HAVE TODAY approved H. R. 9428 to provide for the procurement of medical and dental officers of the Army, Navy, Air Force, and Public Health Service, and for other purposes.

This legislation is one of the major items in the Administration's legislative program for improving military career incentives. Under it, medical and dental officers of the Army, Navy, Air Force and Public Health Service will receive increased special pay as follows: Those having 2 to 6 years service will receive an additional \$50.00 per month; those having 6 to 10 years service will receive an additional \$100.00 per month; and those having more than 10 years service will receive an additional \$150.00 per month. The legislation also provides for constructive service credits for pay and longevity purposes to compensate for the extensive training which medical officers must undertake before starting on their professional careers.

I am informed that good progress is being made on the other major Administration recommendations designed to stop the wasteful losses from our armed forces and attract individuals to those services. I look forward to having the legislation embodying these recommendations presented to me at an early date. This includes legislation to remove existing inequities and inconsistencies in veterans' and survivors' benefits, legislation to provide medical care for all dependents of military personnel, legislation to improve the conditions of service of nurses, legislation to increase the regular officer strength of the armed forces, legislation to provide adequate housing for military personnel and their families, and legislation to continue existing authority to retire commissioned officers of the Army and Air Force in currently held temporary grades.

All of these measures are essential to the well-being of our military personnel and to personnel stability in our armed forces.

NOTE: As enacted, H. R. 9428 is Public Law 497, 84th Congress (70 Stat. 119).

92 ¶ Statement by the President on the Death of Alben W. Barkley. *April 30, 1956*

I WAS SHOCKED to learn the news of the sudden death of Senator Alben W. Barkley. As Vice President of the United States, Member of Congress and Senator from Kentucky, Mr. Barkley had a long and distinguished record of public service for the people of his state and country. The nation is the poorer by this tragic event. Mrs. Eisenhower and I join with all other Americans in extending our heartfelt sympathy to his family.

93 ¶ Statement by the President: Armed Forces Day. *May 1, 1956*

EACH YEAR on the third Saturday in May, the Armed Forces of the United States, including the Reserve components and auxiliary services, make a special effort to increase public understanding of our national defense program which is, and has been from the beginning of our Republic, dedicated to achieving and maintaining peace.

In the present world situation, it is most important that our own people, and others throughout the world who believe as we do, should be cognizant of all aspects of our national strength—the spiritual and the moral, as well as the material and the military—and be reminded of our continuing efforts for peace.

The purpose of Armed Forces Day is to increase public understanding of, and to emphasize, our peaceful aspirations. I hope

that all Americans, as well as many of our friends in other lands, will accept the invitation to visit our Armed Forces at this time.

94 ¶ The President's News Conference of *May 4, 1956.*

THE PRESIDENT. Sit down. Good morning.

Just a few minutes ago I received from the American Advisory Committee that went to Geneva to work with the United States delegation there in trade negotiations a report that I have asked Mr. Hagerty to hand out in his usual way; it probably will be over in his office. But it was a very pleasing report from my viewpoint.¹

There were on the Committee representatives of labor, farm, business, publishing, a very broadly representative committee. Their convictions about the function of trade in cementing our relationships with other countries, about the need for us joining O. T. C. and so on, are to my mind so firmly rooted in logic I have asked him to put it out. If you want to see it, he will have it. That's all I have.

Q. Robert E. Clark, International News Service: Mr. President, do you see any cause for concern in the reports that delivery

¹Released by the White House on May 4, the report is entitled "Statement to the President by the Non-Governmental Advisors to the United States Delegation Negotiating Tariff Agreements in Geneva, Switzerland."

The report praises the work of the American negotiators. "By no stretch of imagination could the tariff negotiations, as we observed them, be called a giveaway program. . . . We found our negotiating teams . . . to be bargaining in what seemed to us to be the best Yankee tradition. They insisted on obtaining concessions of full value for each concession made by the United States."

The report also emphasizes the need for the permanent administrative machinery provided by the proposed Organization for Trade Cooperation. "The adoption of this administrative machinery . . . would clearly be in our enlightened self-interest. It would help make all our trade agreements more truly reciprocal. . . . Failure on the part of the United States, the world's greatest trading nation, to join in setting up this organization would cause great dismay and disappointment throughout the free world at a time when the Soviet Union is stepping up its foreign economic efforts."

of B-52 bombers to the Air Force is lagging behind schedule in the light of reports out of Russia that Soviet production of the same type of planes is forging ahead of us?

THE PRESIDENT. I think we ought to broaden our vision a little bit more widely than looking at one particular phase or part of an organization when we begin to compare our position with those of others.

Here was testimony in one particular part, the Strategic Air Command and, of course, it is disappointing that 37 of these planes had to be held up in delivery for modification because of some defect.

It is, of course, a usual experience in these "hot" airplanes; you have to go through modifications. We had to do it in the war. Indeed, I had to establish a plant in England to modify planes that were coming over from the United States before you could use them in combat.

I am informed that, first of all, this defect is being corrected, but I want to call your attention to this: there is still a lot of testimony to come forward.

We have the most powerful navy in the world. There is no navy that even approaches it in power, and it features one thing, air power.

No one has talked about that. We have bases around the world, established for the particular purpose of using the medium bomber, and not being forced to make all your bases in the United States and, therefore, depend on intercontinental machines.

Now, remember, no matter how efficient the plane is in terms of long range, the further forward you can carry it, the less time it is in the air and the more efficient it operates in war. So I think by the time the Defense Department gets done presenting its full picture, the United States will see that they have had great bodies of men who have not been idle, who have not been in indifferent to the security of the United States, and who have carried their duties, their responsibilities forward to the point that the

United States will feel a lot better than just on this one piece of testimony.

Q. Charles S. von Fremd, CBS News: Mr. President, continuing on that subject, sir, does that mean then that as of this time the administration does not plan to step up intercontinental programs, intercontinental bomber programs?

THE PRESIDENT. No, I don't think you can say that in those terms.

We have stepped up the originally agreed rate of B-52 production, we have stepped it up twice since this administration has been in, and I don't know what the Defense Department is going to recommend next. But what I do want to say is that the whole question of air power is not confined to one simple type of airplane.

Q. Pat Munroe, Albuquerque Journal: Mr. President, congressional critics of our secrecy policy on thermonuclear activities say that it prevents the United States from taking the propaganda initiative in contrast with statements made by Russian leaders. I wonder if our policy is under review at the present time?

THE PRESIDENT. I must say I am a little bit puzzled by what they mean. Most of the secrecy in the thermonuclear and atomic area are in conformity with the law that is written by the Congress, and I am not exactly certain what they mean.

But I do know this: we have men studying every day on how can we gain advantages in the world, spreading the truth about the United States, its purposes, its assets, its resources, its intentions.

So if there is something here that we have been failing to find, we will certainly take these Congressmen's views and consider them and study them.

Q. Alan S. Emory, Watertown Times: The Republican National Committeeman from New York says if you should ask former Governor Dewey to run for the Senate on the Republican ticket this fall, he would have to accept. Has anyone requested

you, sir, to ask Mr. Dewey to run or do you have any intention of asking him?

THE PRESIDENT. The first time I have heard it mentioned is this minute.

Q. John L. Steele, *Time Magazine*: Sir, can you tell us anything this morning about your plans for an overall review of the foreign assistance program?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, yes, I have conferred with some of the congressional leaders.

I believe this: since all of us agree that these programs are looking to the long-term good of the United States, while they should be reviewed annually, they should not be subject to radical changes and you should, therefore, do as much reasonable, logical planning as is possible and feasible in order to keep them stable so we know what we are going to do, and others know what we are going to do.

Because of this kind of a general feeling, and the belief that such programs in the interests of the United States should be reviewed, we are studying ways and means of establishing a commission to look into this long-range plan and report to me and to the Congress next year—or before January 20, we will say. This has nothing to do with the present program. The present program has been built up on what we believe to be a minimum basis.

I do not mean to say that some detail in the military or the other part of the program might not be subjected to different judgment, and would be acceptable. But I do say that the program as it is now outlined represents to us a minimum that is necessary for the welfare of the United States in the year to come; and the review that I am talking about is—this long-range thing I am talking about, the years to come—where is the United States going?

Q. Robert W. Richards, *The Copley Press*: Mr. President, I want to ask you to comment on something that will be more satisfying to you than some of these questions.

You won a landslide vote among high school seniors and juniors, I think about 450,000 of them gave you 58.6 percent and an absolute majority in all but five States. Do you think that is because you have been appealing to the youth of the country repeatedly to take an active interest in their Government and get ready for their responsibilities for citizenship?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, someone brought in that survey, showed it to me, and I would be less than human if I said I didn't get a lift out of it. Of course I did, because I like youngsters—as a matter of fact, I probably trust them more than lots of people do. But I think the main thing to be commented upon in that survey is this: the youngsters are taking such an interest in their Government, the policies that are being applied, and the people that are trying to run them.

Now, maybe their judgments are based on less exact information than you people have. But the fact that they are taking the interest in our Government is the one thing that is necessary if this type of government is to be successful over the years.

The young people must do it, and they must continue through their lives; so I applaud them for taking the interest and going to the trouble of doing all this.

I thank every one of them that thinks I am doing O. K.

Q. Edward P. Morgan, American Broadcasting Company: Mr. President, yesterday Mr. Nixon's former campaign manager, Mr. Chotiner of Los Angeles, testified before a Senate subcommittee that a couple of aides in the White House had given him some assistance in some business that he had with the Government. I was wondering if you had had time to review any of the testimony of that subcommittee hearing and, whether you have or not, whether you have any suggestion in the way of what might be called a recipe for a code of ethics for people who have friends in Government who deal with the Government?

THE PRESIDENT. I will tell you mine. I have not reviewed that testimony, but I have had many reports on it since yesterday afternoon at 2 o'clock, or something of that order.

Now, first of all, I have given two specific orders, often repeated to the executive branch of the Government: first, any individual coming anywhere in this Government is first assured of courteous treatment. I will not stand for arrogance on the part of Government officials, and if anybody in this room, for example, wants to come to any place, including my staff, say you have got a problem, someone will do his best to put you in touch with the right official.

My second thing has been this: if anyone ever comes to any part of this Government claiming some privilege, even to as low as an introduction to an official he wants to meet, on the basis that he is part of my family or of my friends, that he has any connection with the White House, he is to be thrown out instantly.

Now, there are absolutely no grounds in these particular cases for believing that my two rules were violated. In both cases that this man appealed he was turned down. He was merely put in touch, in one case, with the CAB to find out, I believe, when a decision was coming down, and it was against his client.

One of them was appealed, I believe it was again declined; the other one was appealed and is now in front of the courts.

In no case did any connection he had with the White House benefit him one bit. I can't believe that anybody on my staff would ever be guilty of an indiscretion. But if ever anything came to my attention of that kind, any part of this Government, that individual would be gone.

Q. Lloyd M. Schwartz, Fairchild Publications: Secretaries Weeks, Mitchell, and Humphrey, and apparently Dr. Burns are all questioning the wisdom of this Federal Reserve Board's latest rise in discount rates on member banks. I wonder whether you have any reservations about that increase and the impact of it?

THE PRESIDENT. Well now, everybody has his opinion about a thing like this.

I think I made it very clear last week or the week before that here is an independent body reaching its decisions through the action, in this case, of a unanimous vote of its member boards, 11 member boards, and of this Board itself. I don't know whether

the vote was unanimous in this Board, but anyway they reached a conclusion. It is their duty and responsibility to make their conclusions effective.

Now, what we are concerned in is the necessary expansion of this country's industries and economy in order to bring about a constant increasing standard for a constantly increasing population, that the money is there to do it, that those finances are there to provide for these expanded facilities. We watch that all the time, and I am sure the Board is doing exactly the same thing. If it believes that money is getting too tight because of this, they will take measures to meet it.

Q. Edward T. Folliard, *Washington Post and Times Herald*: Mr. President, this is about the school construction bill. Two House Members who strongly favor more schools and who are members of the committee handling the bill, McConnell, a Republican, and Kelley, a Democrat, are going to Geneva as delegates to the ILO; they are going in June. In view of that, Mr. President, do you have any plan to try to get early action on the bill?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I have, of course, constantly repeated my recommendation in this regard, and I didn't know about this plan of these two individuals to go.

But my own feeling is this: the earlier we can get that bill, the earlier we can get to work. We need the schools, so I would like to do it.

Now, I am just assuming that Congress and the committees and their individual members know how to handle themselves and devote their time, so I don't suppose that that visit itself of two men would be critical in this issue. But in any event I am for speed.

Q. Edward Milne, *Providence Journal-Bulletin*: Could you tell us, sir, what considerations led to the change of timing on the announcement of the vice-presidential choice?

THE PRESIDENT. What change in timing?

Q. Mr. Milne: We had understood earlier that you were not

going to have any comment on a choice until after the convention, after your own nomination.

THE PRESIDENT. I said that he announced himself as ready to do it, and I was delighted. I haven't said what the convention is going to do. I said as long as he said he would like to do it, why, I would be very happy about it.

Q. Nat S. Finney, Buffalo Evening News: Mr. President, I believe that on June 18 there has to be a renewal of the lease for the air base in Saudi Arabia; and the Ambassador from there has returned. There are some reports that there will be a request for arms to either make or complete a 35,000-man internal security force. I wonder if you could help us with some information on that?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I would rather not comment on it at the moment because it is a matter that is under active negotiation.

As you know, the Mid-East is a very troubled spot. It is not a place with just one difficulty. It is a many-sided difficulty. Everything you do has its repercussions in other areas. So I would think that here is something that we better do our best and not comment on it until later.

Q. Marvin L. Arrowsmith, Associated Press: Mr. President, I have been requested to ask you about a published report dealing with your candidacy for re-election.

The report was that on the evening of February 29, the day you announced, you were heard making this remark to a friend: "I had to say 'yes' because they told me they didn't have time to build up another candidate."

I have been requested to ask whether you did make that remark.

THE PRESIDENT. Why, Mr. Arrowsmith, I have heard so many stories about my candidacy I couldn't possibly remember whether I ever said any such thing, and if I did I could have said it very facetiously. I certainly before this body testified time and again I think we have got a world of Republicans that are fully capable of carrying any responsibility in the country.

Q. Sarah McClendon, El Paso Times: Recently, your Attorney General, Mr. Brownell, was down in Texas, and had some conferences with Governor Shivers, and with Mrs. Hobby, and I wonder if this was part of a plan that you and the Attorney General had worked out or if you had any report on that conference, and as it relates to trying to influence the Texas voters?

THE PRESIDENT. I didn't know he had met with them.

Q. Carleton Kent, Chicago Sun-Times: Senator Dirksen has proposed a new version of the constitutional amendment to limit income taxes at 25 percent, with a proviso that Congress, by a three-fourths vote, could raise it another 10 percent. Could you tell us what you think, in general, about the constitutional amendment way of tax limitation? Have you ever considered it?

THE PRESIDENT. Let me preface this remark—I am certainly shooting from the hip because I haven't heard this discussed in a year, I didn't know he had put in this amendment. It seems to me if you get anything of this kind too rigidly into law, what would you do in an emergency when you are doing your best to pay as you go so as to avoid two things: (1) the accumulating of great profits in areas where you can't make rigid contracts to begin with; and (2) to avoid piling up the public debt and just passing it on?

It would seem to me that you would be getting into a very rigid fix.

Now, I would believe this: that the common sense of America ought to find some proper limitation on taxes or at least rearrangement of the tax schedule so we leave to States and municipalities the ability to perform those responsibilities imposed upon them by our Constitution.

I firmly believe that the decentralization, the geographical decentralization, of the functions of Government as well as the functional distribution in the three branches is necessary to our particular civilization.

The interests of New England are a long ways from the interests of southern California; the interests of the South are a long ways

from the industrialized sections of Pennsylvania and Ohio and of the other sections of the East.

So we must have a maximum of local government. I think this: I think that this tax question and the Federal authority to scrape off all the tax money that is available can destroy, if we don't use common sense, the ability of those States and municipalities to perform their functions. I think we must be very careful, but I would want to be very sure that I knew what I was doing before I would say yes to a constitutional amendment.

Q. James B. Reston, *New York Times*: Mr. President, could I ask you whether you ever tried to persuade General Gruenther to stay in the Government or to come back and go into your administration; and, secondly, would you give us the benefit of your experience in trying to get talented people to come to Washington?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, in one way, of course, I could have ordered General Gruenther, but I personally felt he was occupying one of the most important posts that any individual can occupy today, from a standpoint of the United States interests, and I think I would include even civilians.

Now, you say, did I try to persuade him to stay? I think if ever he writes his story he will say that I did persuade him to stay for a long time, but I couldn't do it forever.

He is one of the ablest, finest men, and I think everybody senses that that meets him. He is honest; a man of great integrity. I would be delighted to have him here. But he is a soldier. I think he feels he has gotten a little weary and tired, and he wants to go into retirement. I think he has earned it, and I must accept that.

Q. Douglass Cater, *The Reporter Magazine*: Mr. President, in your February speech of announcement, you spoke of a reduced schedule of activities which you felt you could properly carry on. I wonder if, since that time, you have been able to work it out in a more specific fashion; and if the present schedule is one in which you feel you can properly carry on, if elected again?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, first of all, you will notice that this year I did eliminate all of the normal official social functions except for those that involve entertainment for heads of state, or people coming to see us.

Now, I expect to take up some of that in the future if I should be continued in this office.

The schedule I am now working on, certainly as far as the doctors say, I can continue indefinitely. There is no trouble about it whatsoever.

I was talking about things like that, but I would like to make one thing clear: no President can delegate his constitutional duties. How can he do it? He has to sign the papers. He has to sign them, and he is responsible for them. I am the responsible head of the executive part of this Government, and there is no chance of me delegating away the responsibilities. I might delegate somebody—"You take action but I will take the gaff," you might say. But that I have to do, and I expect to do it, and I should do it.

Q. Paul Scott Rankine, Reuters: The United Nations Subcommittee on Disarmament ends in stalemate in London today. This is about the last of the subjects which were discussed at the Geneva Summit Conference to end in a stalemate. I wonder if you could tell us what are the prospects and what are the next steps in this new phase of relations between the East and the West?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, of course, I think it is fair to say that all the Western World is disappointed that they found no more greater readiness to concede something to our idea of inspection as a means of promoting confidence, because it is on that that we think initial disarmament, at least, must be soundly based.

If it isn't, instead of being confident, we are just more frightened.

If we don't know anything more about what's inside the Iron Curtain than we do today, then we are not going to reduce anything; that's all there is to it.

But if we each could know, and the purpose of all of the inspectional system device is just to let each other know we are doing what we said we would do, we think that is perfectly reasonable.

Now we are going to continue through every path, avenue, open to us to try to convince the people on the other side that we must promote confidence step by step with what we say we are doing in disarmament, and we don't believe that disarmament can be brought about in any other way.

Q. Rowland Evans, Jr., New York Herald Tribune: Mr. President, I ask this question, sir, because of your answer to Mr. Clark earlier. Despite the B-47 medium bomber force that we have in our overseas bases, do you say that it is vital that we try to stay ahead of Russia in production of the long-range bomber, that one category of weapon, taking into account——

THE PRESIDENT. No. I say it is vital that we get what we believe we need. That does not necessarily mean more than somebody else does. We have to get what we need.

Now, certainly, when you come and talk about the quality of the thing, I say we mustn't be behind anybody.

Q. Thomas N. Schroth, Congressional Quarterly: The Senate will soon take up a bill to revise campaign spending laws, and one area of controversy here is primary elections where in some States most of the spending is done. Do you think the Federal Government should control spending in primary elections for the House and Senate?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, for me it is a very difficult one because, as I read the Constitution, the determination of their voting laws and so on is left to the States.

I think that if you were going into it very far, you would have to have a constitutional lawyer give you the probable results of such a law. Therefore, if it had to be done through the Constitution, that's the way it would have to be taken up.

I do think this: I think if we could have comparable laws in these cases in all of the States and properly enforced, it would be a good thing.

Everybody of good will in America wants to take any possibility of corruption, graft, and everything else out of politics. We should try to do it; but it is not easy, and I don't know whether a Federal law here is the applicable thing.

I am giving you a personal opinion; and I have not consulted with anybody on the opinion I just gave you.

Q. Peter Lisagor, *Chicago Daily News*: Does the administration have any present plans to divert more foreign aid through the United Nations, and could you tell us in a general way what you think of that idea?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, of course, theoretically, doing everything through an international body of good will that would put all aid where it was needed should do the most good in the world, would remove any chance of politics entering the subject—I mean international politics—so you could build up a very great case for the theory. And in order that that theory could have a chance to flower and develop, America has very earnestly done its part in all of the institutions that are set up.

Our '56 expenditures in the voluntary contributions through the United Nations, entirely aside from our budget in the maintenance of the United Nations, is something over \$71 million, I believe, far in excess of what anybody else puts in.

So we have shown our adherence to the principle. And in actual practice we are quite certain that as of today—you know the character and the difficulties of the United Nations as well as I do—you couldn't keep out politics.

Therefore, our efforts, as we see it today, must be largely done on a bilateral or, let us say, on some kind of an association basis, not the major effort through the United Nations, as of now.

Q. Charles W. Roberts, *Newsweek*: Sir, some Government officials have suggested that the foreign aid program you now have before Congress is just a stopgap measure until methods better adapted to Russia's new techniques can be devised. Do you share that view?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, that is not entirely true. I have al-

ready told you that we are constantly trying to improve it. As most of you know, I have had the Dodge committee here working for many months on this with every kind of expert advice and counsel that we can get together.

We are certain that in this world of today you cannot walk off and abandon your friends, see them go down the drain of insufficient food, clothing, shelter, all the rest of it, and not have something bad happen.

So we are going ahead in what we believe to be the enlightened self-interest of the United States. Our plan is not greatly different from what it has been over the past several years. In certain elements where we thought the plan was weak, we called the attention of the Congress to these partial weaknesses.

The new study is merely to see are we doing it right, now? How could we improve it? And we expect to continue those studies in the future.

Q. Merriman Smith, United Press: Mr. President, this is entirely a procedural question, sir: What time are you leaving for Gettysburg?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I tell you, as accurately as I could, Mr. Smith, I would hope along about 1:00, 1:30, maybe something of that kind.

Q. Anthony H. Leviero, New York Times: I would like to ask, sir, one more question about air power. A Senate subcommittee has received testimony to the effect that if we continue on the basis of our present plan our Strategic Air Force will fall below the strength of Russia's by 1958 or 1960. Have you any comment on that question?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I said, first of all, in each type of bomber, in each classification of ship, we need what our requirements demand, and that doesn't necessarily mean that we have the same as anybody else.

We are not trying to match the Russians in ground forces. And in the years gone by, some of you are old enough to remember when we made no attempt to match Britain in sea forces.

Now we have got a tremendous air power, a mobile air power, in the sea forces. It hasn't even been mentioned yet. Let's wait until we get this picture sort of all before us, and then let's have a talk about it.

Q. Charles W. Bailey, Minneapolis Star and Tribune: Mr. President, the House yesterday passed a farm bill, including the soil bank and also including higher price supports on some of the small feed grains. When you vetoed the first farm bill, you attacked such a feed grain support provision. Could you now accept, do you think, this slightly modified provision that was passed yesterday?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, the exact language of this particular amendment has not been in front of me. I said something in my veto to the effect that the bill was clumsy and awkward.

Now, it is reported to me that if the Secretary of Agriculture has this added responsibility, he has to put 80 million new acres under control and supervision, he has to measure fields, and he has to establish a bureaucracy much bigger than the very large one he already has.

So this is one of those things that looks to me administratively difficult, and for that reason it is bad.

As to what exact language I could live with, why, I would have to see it after it gets up to me.

Merriman Smith, United Press: Thank you, Mr. President.

NOTE: President Eisenhower's eighty-sixth news conference was held in the Executive Office Building from 10:01 to 10:31 o'clock on Friday morning, May 4, 1956. In attendance: 190.

95 ¶ Memorandum on the Atomic Energy
Labor-Management Relations Panel.

May 4, 1956

Memorandum to: Director, Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service; Chairman, Atomic Energy Commission; Chairman, Atomic Energy Labor-Management Relations Panel

The uninterrupted functioning of our atomic energy program, without strikes or lockouts due to labor-management disputes, is essential to the national security. In achieving this we must, of course, place primary responsibility upon the parties to such disputes to make every effort to effect peaceful settlement through collective bargaining and the full use of mediation and conciliation. Prudence, however, dictates that we have special facilities available which may be used voluntarily to assist in arriving at peaceful adjustments of disputes which would imperil the program when the normal process of collective bargaining and mediation and conciliation have been fully utilized without constructive results. The Atomic Energy Labor-Management Relations Panel exists for this purpose.

Because of the importance of the work of the Panel, I requested you to confer from time to time with one another in the interest of the Panel's maximum effectiveness. The Panel has functioned well in the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service. You have, however, reported to me your conviction that the Panel's special role as an aid to settlement only after the regular conciliation and mediation process has failed to bring about agreement, would be better understood, and the Panel's effectiveness as a supplementary facility to assist settlement thereby further advanced, if the Panel ceased to be an instrumentality of the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service and were established in the Atomic Energy Commission. You recommend that this be done.

I concur in your recommendations, and request that you work out the necessary administrative arrangements and submit them to me before you put them into effect.

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

96 ¶ The President's News Conference of May 9, 1956.

THE PRESIDENT. Good morning. Please sit down.

I suppose that all the representatives of the radio industry here know this is Radio Week, and I want to pay my little tribute to radio, not only as a medium for bringing education, information, entertainment into the home, but for its very wide value in the international world.

Particularly I want to refer just for a moment to its very great value in the war. At no time, I think, did it mean more to me than on the morning of June the sixth. Something along the order, I think, of about 2:30—the air troopers had taken in radios with them—some tiny little transmitter said, “We are okay, and the situation around Ste. Mere Eglise is in fine shape.” Since I had been told by experts that we would lose 90 percent of that command before it went, and I had to take it all on my own shoulders, it was a very great thing.

Incidentally, I hope that you have all noted that today is the 11th anniversary—the first time in 4 years that there wasn't shooting in Europe—midnight last night—the end of hostilities in Europe in the Second World War.

Now I think we will go right to questions.

Q. Marvin L. Arrowsmith, Associated Press: Mr. President, as a member of the Subversive Activities Control Board, former Senator Harry Cain said in a speech a few days ago that your subordinates are keeping you in ignorance of what goes on in the Government employees security program.

In criticism of that program, Cain cited the case of an Air Force economist suspended 14 months ago as a possible security risk, and still awaiting a ruling. He called that an example of bureaucratic heartlessness and said he now has sent you a copy of his speech calling all this to your attention. Do you care to comment on his remarks?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I won't comment on the remarks of another individual. I will tell you a few facts here: I haven't seen the Senator's speech, and if he thinks that is important, why, I suppose I could even arrange that.

Second, I do know about the Hatkin case in the Air Forces. It is now in the hands of Secretary Quarles, and certainly I have the utmost faith in his sense of justice and fairness and decency. The case has gone along a long time, it has been through, I think, three boards, is before the Secretary now, and I do know that they did suspend the man because of what they believed to be the seriousness of the charge while the whole case was examined.

No one would be bold enough to say that any security program can always work perfectly. Human judgment has to be involved, as to when the security and the secrets of the United States are in danger. Some of those, as you know, are terrifically important, and people must make these decisions in accordance with law, regulations, and then proceed to try to get at the bottom of the affair.

I believe that over the past 3 years, a vast and great progress has been made in assuring that these investigations are not only in the best interests and protection of the Government, but do take into account the justice and the rights of individuals.

Q. Ray L. Scherer, National Broadcasting Company: Mr. President, in Indiana yesterday you got something like 60 percent of the vote, which is interpreted to mean that the farmers are not defecting to the Democrats.

Now, on previous occasions when we have asked you to comment on elections, you have generally said that you find yourself amazed that people would take the trouble to vote for you. I

wonder if I could presume to ask why you find that such a phenomenon.

THE PRESIDENT. Well, suppose they voted for you. Would you be astonished? [*Laughter*]

Q. Mr. Scherer: I certainly would. [*Laughter*]

THE PRESIDENT. You are another American. I think that we are raised in the tradition of no supermen and no indispensable men, and therefore if you do retain some of the humility and modesty with which you hope you were born, why, I believe that when another one comes along and says this, "I believe that you are doing a pretty fair job as President of the United States," you would be rather astonished.

Q. William McGaffin, *Chicago Daily News*: A House subcommittee has been trying for months to obtain a file of confidential material relating to the Government nickel plant expansion in Cuba. The allegation has been made that the Department of Justice, which has the file, is simply sitting on it because it would embarrass your administration if it were made public. Is there any prospect that this matter will be cleared up any time soon, sir?

THE PRESIDENT. You had better go and ask first the Attorney General as to why he is sitting on this particular thing that you say he is sitting on, and then after you have gotten all you can out of him, why, probably I will be able to add some light to it.

Q. Mr. McGaffin: Sir, I already have asked the Attorney General.

THE PRESIDENT. You go and tell him that I asked you.

Q. Garnett D. Horner, *Washington Star*: In connection with Mr. Arrowsmith's question, sir, Senator Cain also said that in the interests of justice that you should intervene personally to straighten out what he thought was wrong with the security program. Do you plan any form of action in that regard, and if so, could you tell us what form it might take?

THE PRESIDENT. Only this, that periodically they bring before me what has been going on, usually not in terms of names but in

terms of numbers, what has been happening, how it has been happening, where it has been happening; and the Attorney General is the one that has the responsibility in the Cabinet of keeping track of all these things to see that justice is done and the interests of the Government protected. My door is open to him to come in, all the time, to supplement reports from the normal channels.

Q. Charles S. von Fremd, CBS News: Mr. President, on the basis of any report you may now have, sir, can you give us your evaluation of the U. N. Secretary General Hammarskjöld's peace mission to the Middle East?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, of course, he succeeded in getting an agreement on a cease-fire. Unfortunately there have been some incidents since then. They appear to be very minor, and we are still hopeful that that cease-fire will hold.

In the meantime, I think the entire Western World is exerting its efforts to find ways and means of alleviating the tensions that underlie all this trouble, rather than merely to try to deal with the symptoms.

Q. Harry W. Frantz, United Press Latin American Service: Mr. President, are you able to tell us if you have yet arrived at a firm decision as to whether you will be able to go to Panama City in connection with the commemoration of the Congress of Panama?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I can only say this: I have put it on my calendar. I firmly intend to go.

Now, whether or not at the last minute that is possible—there are always circumstances that can intervene to determine something else—it is my firm intention at present to go.

Q. Mr. Frantz: What is your thought of that Congress and its significance? Why would you regard it worthy of attendance?

THE PRESIDENT. I think that if a great majority of the heads of state of all the American states can meet together, that it will be a notice to all our peoples from the North right on straight down to Cape Horn that that organization is of tremendous im-

portance in the international affairs and the thinking of all the governments.

Q. Sarah McClendon, *El Paso Times*: Mr. President, Governor Shivers was overwhelmingly defeated in a race in Texas recently to select delegates for the State convention. I wonder if you see in this a repudiation of you and your administration in Texas.

THE PRESIDENT. Well, that seems to me to be stretching a point. Here is an internal conflict in the Democratic Party in Texas, and I would have a hard time interpreting that one when I don't even know sometimes, as I have told you, what more open and obvious primaries seem to mean. I don't know.

Q. Carleton Kent, *Chicago Sun-Times*: Mr. President, it has been nearly a month since Douglas McKay left your Cabinet. Do you plan to name his successor as Interior Secretary soon?

THE PRESIDENT. Yes. I have had the thing under advisement ever since he left. There are difficulties that come in getting exactly the right man for such a post, and I hope to send down the name within a matter of days.

Q. James B. Reston, *New York Times*: Mr. President, where do we stand now on that review of your exchange-of-persons policy with the Soviet Union?

THE PRESIDENT. You mean, opening up the contacts?

Q. Mr. Reston: Yes, sir.

THE PRESIDENT. You say, "Where do we stand now?" I can only tell you where we stood somewhere along the first of the year. You know where that was, because it was the efforts made by Mr. Jackson under the foreign ministers, in connection with the Geneva Conference in late October. Since then I haven't made a detailed study of that thing, and so I know of no definite progress.

Q. Merriman Smith, *United Press*: Mr. President, there seems to be a pretty well-founded report this morning that Senator Walter George will shortly announce that he is not going to stand

for re-election. You have been quite friendly to Senator George. How would you regard his departure from the Senate?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I would regard his departure from the Senate as removing from that hall one of the men who have been, in my opinion, wisest and most disinterested in his efforts to promote peace and bipartisanship in international affairs.

Actually, I have told him more than once, not only in general terms but specifically, that if ever he chooses to leave the Senate, I hope that as long as I am here, if I am here after that, that he would consent to accept some post where his very great experience and his very splendid approach to foreign affairs could be useful to this Government, because I think we need him.

Q. May Craig, Portland (Maine) Press Herald: Mr. President, when Messrs. Khrushchev and Bulganin were in England, Britishers asked them to help obtain the release of political prisoners. Can you tell us the situation in regard to Red China and our war prisoners they are holding?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, as I remember, they have released the flyers. Now, they had a number of civilian prisoners left of whom they have released only a few; and a great deal of the talk that has been going on at Geneva, I don't know for how long, between our ambassador and theirs, has centered around that question. But we have not been wholly satisfied—I mean, our requirements have not been wholly met in the thing. There are still some there.

Q. Laurence H. Burd, Chicago Tribune: Mr. President, do you plan to have a major medical checkup before the Republican Convention?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I am going out for a major medical checkup, I think it is the day after tomorrow. This is from head to toe. I mean, this hasn't got any significance with respect to my late difficulty—this is a whole, complete checkup, including, of course, cardiac difficulties.

Q. Mr. Burd: Has Dr. White been dismissed from this case?

THE PRESIDENT. No. As a matter of fact I think he is in town today.

Q. Mr. Burd: Will he examine you before the Republican Convention?

THE PRESIDENT. Ask the doctor. I don't know. He hasn't told his plans yet.

Q. John L. Steele, *Time Magazine*: Mr. President, have your discussions with Senator George reached the point where you have suggested a specific position for him, and have you received any indication of his sentiment toward accepting a position in the administration?

THE PRESIDENT. Senator George told me that never would he refuse to serve in any post in which we thought he might be useful if it was possible for him to accept. I have had in mind and have discussed a number of things he might do. One specifically I don't care to mention at this moment, because I don't know whether that is the one that would meet his ideas the best.

Q. Chalmers M. Roberts, *Washington Post*: Mr. President, I would like to refer back to what you said last week on the air power question in this respect. You spoke of your policy of keeping a supremacy of American air power, taking the Navy and Air Force together. Some of us, I believe, and perhaps the country, had been under the impression that among your policies was one that as to long-range bombers, the intercontinental bomber, the United States should always remain ahead.

Now, could you tell us, sir, was that in fact the policy of this administration at any time, and if so, when was it changed, as we gather from what you said last week?

THE PRESIDENT. I think from the beginning I said the most dangerous thing you can do in trying to evaluate military strength is to get into what I call the numbers racket, just taking one particular item or kind of weapon and putting them on an arithmetical equation and saying, "We can whip that fellow because we have more."

There comes a time, particularly in these latter days, when the

destructiveness of weapons is so great as to be beyond human imagination, when enough is certainly a plenty, and you do no good, as I see it, by increasing those numbers except to get, say, an added factor of safety. If you think you are going to lose a dozen, why then you want a factor of safety until you can push home the attacks you think are necessary.

What I did say was this: it is absolutely essential that the United States take its own particular position in the world, sitting here between two great oceans, with its interests in the Far East and its interests in Europe, and working out an offensive and defensive military establishment—that is, in its capabilities—that is suited to its own requirements. It is maintained merely for defense, not to go out and attack somebody else, but when you are attacked, you have to be able to attack yourselves, which is what we call retaliatory power.

So I have never said to my knowledge that we have to stay ahead of anybody in the exact numbers of any particular weapon or any particular type of unit. If I did so, I would certainly be frightened of their numbers of divisions as compared to ours. I do say in quality and in its adaptation to our own situation, we have got to have adequate—that is what I say. [*Confers with Mr. Hagerty*]

Oh, yes, let me go back to a question from just a moment ago. This will only take a second.

In response to that question about Senator George, upon learning that Senator George was contemplating this move, I wrote him a letter in which I specifically asked that he not terminate his service with the Government even if he left the Senate; to stay as long as I was here. I believe we have his permission to make the letter public, and you can get it from Mr. Hagerty after a while.

Q. Edward P. Morgan, American Broadcasting Company: Mr. President, two related points on the ILO, the International Labor Organization: first, do you care to comment in any way on the reported change yesterday in the administration's position which now supports an ILO convention condemning slave labor;

and second, how do you feel about Senator Bricker's rider which would restrict American appropriations in support of the ILO?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, the first one is not a real change to which you refer. What has happened is this: there is in the treaty-making power of the Government an implicit limitation that it deals with foreign affairs—not used as a subterfuge to make domestic law.

We were very cautious in supporting any amendment that purported to give someone else the right to step over into our country and say anything about any kind of labor that we might have.

Now, what we are carefully saying is that we condemn forced labor. Of course, that is abolished already by our Constitution. There is no constitutional reason in this particular case why you shouldn't say it. But it now says it by the constitutional means. And also, we say we are against trading in goods, I believe we said, in international affairs that have been made by slave labor. That being an international problem is a fitting thing for a treaty.

Now, with respect to the rider on the—you said it is Senator Bricker—that is something that hasn't been called to my attention. But I do believe, I do believe we should be bona fide members of the ILO.

Q. Alan S. Emory, Watertown Times: Mr. President, the Niagara Power issue is coming up in the Senate again pretty soon. In the past, sir, you have said that this is an issue for Congress, and you personally have expressed no preference between construction of the project by either New York State or by private companies. I would like to ask, first, do you see any urgency for Congress to complete action on this project this year, and, second, have you a personal preference as between State and private company construction?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I don't think I can answer either of them yes or no. We talked about this once before at length here a couple of years ago, I think. In this particular case, Congress reserved to itself the right to say exactly who and what should develop this power. Exactly why they did that, I don't know.

I wasn't here. They did do it, and they have reserved for themselves, instead of giving to the CAB [FPC] as is customary, the power of saying who will develop and how.

So it is a Congressional authority and responsibility. As for this urgency, I would say this: if they need the power, they need it. So why fool around? Why not get to work and go do it?

But finally, as to my preference, always I have said we ought to consult, as far as possible, the State, the locality. In this case, there is no other State directly involved, although there are other States interested, and to my mind, I would always allow the State, where it was an applicable case, to determine the kind of development they want. [*Confers with Mr. Hagerty*]

Excuse me. I said, "CAB." Federal Power Commission. I always forget these initials.

Q. Edward T. Folliard, Washington Post and Times Herald: Mr. President, this is related to Mr. Roberts' question about long-range bombers.

THE PRESIDENT. Yes.

Q. Mr. Folliard: After you made your statement last week, Senator George said that he agreed with much of what you said. Then it went on to make this statement:

"The country has been taught that the long-range bomber is the core of our striking force. It will remain disturbing to the country to be constantly reminded that the Russians are building up an enormous air force, but that we are not keeping pace."

Do you think, Mr. President, that a campaign of education is needed to put over your thesis——

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I think in all these complicated questions there should be more constant laying out of the problem as it exists.

Now, if we are going to depend entirely on long-range strategic intercontinental bombers, why do we have all these forward bases that are costing us so many billions to build and to sustain?

Actually, you are trying in every way you can to disperse forces that can be attacked by the enemy. One of your ways of dispers-

ing them is putting them on bases. When you put them on forward bases, you obviously don't need planes that can fly from the middle of St. Louis to the middle of the Eurasian Continent. You need shorter-range ones. So the medium bomber acquires a great significance and great strength because of those bases.

Finally, you have the movable base of the Navy. That itself is capable of delivering very devastating attacks. So we, as I said before, do try to look at this thing from the standpoint of our needs and our capabilities, and I do think there should be a little bit more education on it.

Q. Robert E. Clark, International News Service: Mr. President, it has been suggested that you designate former President Truman as some sort of a good will ambassador for the United States during his trip to Europe. I wonder what you think of this idea.

THE PRESIDENT. This is the first time I have ever heard of it.

Q. Mr. Clark: It is a suggestion made by Senator Kefauver.

THE PRESIDENT. I hadn't heard of it.

Q. Matthew Warren, DuMont Television: Mr. President, across the Nation there seems to be a growing concern over an increase in juvenile delinquency. I should like to get your views on that, sir.

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I haven't the latest figures on the juvenile delinquency problem. But just before I was taken ill, you know, I had started in, with the instigation of Mr. Kelly from Philadelphia and a few others who were supporting the proposition, to develop a very great movement of youngsters toward the athletic fields of this country, to get them to take part in athletics, because all sorts of tests and analyses have shown that the youngsters taking part in athletics were far less susceptible to the juvenile temptations than were others.

Moreover, the very strange thing came out that physical fitness was a criterion that you could apply, and with it find a real parallel between physical fitness and, you might say, mental adjustment.

So that project, which was delayed, I am now reviving. Vice President Nixon was the chairman, and we are starting again. I think it is a large committee of—what did we have?—seventy-five or one hundred on it.

And I will say this: I am going to do all I can to combat it.

Q. Carroll H. Kenworthy, United Press: Mr. President, as you know, two weeks ago the question came up here of a Columbia University professor who was feared assassinated by foreign agents, and since then the Inter-American Press Association has asked you to look into that matter. Have you any information on it?

THE PRESIDENT. The Attorney General went after the case as quickly as it arose, went into New York City. The FBI is standing by on the first intimation that it has a right to step in. The City Police of New York have it in hand.

As far as the case now stands, it is a pure case of disappearance and not a case where the FBI has any right to step in.

Q. Marguerite Higgins, New York Herald Tribune: Mr. President, in light of the world situation, can we count, like in North Africa, can we count on forward bases indefinitely?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, some of them, I think it would only be fair to say, would be endangered, and there is constant negotiation for the preservation and protection of them. I don't think you could count on them forever, but at the same time, they won't all go out simultaneously and forever, either.

Q. Robert G. Spivack, New York Post: In connection with the current negotiations with the Saudi Arabian Government, can you tell us if our Government is making any effort to persuade them to abandon their policy of barring American Jews from the U. S. air base there?

THE PRESIDENT. American Jews?

Q. Mr. Spivack: Yes. As I understand—

THE PRESIDENT. I haven't heard that. I have heard that certain of our agreements accord to a nation where these bases are

situated the right to determine if an American is *persona non grata* and can't enter.

Now, I have never heard this, that American Jews cannot go into our air bases.

Q. Mr. Spivack: The Pentagon told us some weeks ago as a result of being privately advised by the Saudi Arabians, we just never sent any American Jews to that base there.

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I would say I would talk it over with the State Department. That is where I get my exact information. But I do know that certain of our bases do accord, do give to these people, who are sovereigns in that area—

After all, we don't get that territory on the same basis as you do an embassy. We are not sovereign there. Therefore, they do have some rights that you have got to accord them.

Q. Marvin L. Arrowsmith, Associated Press: Mr. President, could we clarify a point on your reference to your physical examination? Did we understand you to say that it was not related to your recent difficulty?

THE PRESIDENT. No. I said it was not specifically for that purpose. But during the course of that physical examination—I said they were going through me from head to toe—of course, I will be examined with all the cardiograms and pictures and things that they usually bring out.

Q. Charles W. Roberts, Newsweek: Mr. President, Governor Stassen told us yesterday that the next move in the disarmament picture may be a reply by Premier Bulganin to your last letter. I wonder if you hold any hope that by correspondence with him you can close the gap that the recent London disarmament talks failed to close.

THE PRESIDENT. Well, of course, just a mere letter is not going to close gaps at once. By keeping in correspondence on a polite basis of diplomatic deportment, you do keep open another door so that there can be an idea communicated, one side to the other.

I don't look upon it as a substitute for any diplomatic work, for any conference or anything else. I look on it only as a faint

possibility that something useful can come out to supplement other efforts.

Merriman Smith, United Press: Thank you, Mr. President.

NOTE: President Eisenhower's eighty-seventh news conference was held in the Executive Office Building from 11:03 to 11:30 o'clock on Wednesday morning, May 9, 1956. In attendance: 214.

97 ¶ Letter to Senator Walter F. George Asking Him To Serve as the President's Personal Representative for the North Atlantic Community.
May 9, 1956

Dear Walter:

I know that your present term in the Senate expires this year. In view of that fact, I should like to say two things to you:

It has been my great hope that you would continue on in the Senate where you have been able to make so great a contribution to peace through helping to develop and sustain a non-partisan foreign policy. Your contribution in that respect has been incalculable and I believe it was the overwhelming desire of the American people that you would have found yourself able to continue in the Senate.

I can, however, realize that you may desire to concentrate more exclusively on the great problems of war and peace which confront our nation, free of the other responsibilities which inevitably go with the Senatorship. If that is your preference, I earnestly hope that you will be willing to act for this nation with reference to the development of the North Atlantic Community so that it will in greater unity and greater effectiveness serve the cause of international peace and the preservation of those ideals of human liberty and freedom which are so deeply rooted in the Community.

As you know, at the latest meeting of the North Atlantic Treaty Council, it was decided to explore ways and means by which the North Atlantic Community, through the NATO Council or otherwise, might more fully realize its potential for peace and human welfare. I regard the contribution which the United States can make to this project as of the utmost importance and feel that it may indeed play a decisive role in the achievement of a just and durable peace and the preservation of the great values inherent in our Western civilization.

It would be a great service to the nation and, indeed in a broader sense, to the whole world if you would be willing, for as long as I may hold my present office, to act as my Personal Representative and Special Ambassador in the development of this new evolutionary step within the North Atlantic Community. In case you do feel impelled to lay down the responsibilities of your present office, I can think of no way where you could better serve our nation and more fittingly crown your great career as a statesman.

I may say that Foster Dulles has asked me to express his warm concurrence in what I say and that he greatly hopes that you will favorably consider this important mission.

With warm personal regard,

Sincerely,

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

NOTE: On May 14, 1956, the White House announced that the President and Senator George had discussed this letter and that Senator George had stated that he would accept the responsibility, following his retirement from the Senate.

98 ¶ Remarks to Members of the Military
Chaplains National Association. *May 9, 1956*

IT IS a tremendous pleasure to meet again with so many old friends and to have even this brief contact with representatives of a group that has meant so much to me personally in the work I have had to do in the past, but more especially to the Armed Services of which you have been so important a part.

So it is with real sincerity that I congratulate Charlie Thomas this morning on the honor he has received. It is with real appreciation I thank you, sir [to Chaplain Maurice S. Sheehy] for the very kind, complimentary and over-generous remarks you have made about me.

My understanding, my feeling, about the importance of the Chaplains Corps is so great that it would be difficult indeed to think of the most important of all of those things for a two or three-minute chat with you this morning. I would like to bring my thoughts right down to the present.

We know that America now must remain strong, by which I mean militarily strong, to sustain in the world the concepts on which our civilization is based, the ideas of the dignity of man, of a government based on religious faith. So it seems to me, as long as we have to do that, as long as our young men must respond cheerfully to their military duty, whether it be in the Reserves or the Regulars, and must do it as a national obligation, your task is especially important. It is to bring home to them, to their fathers and mothers, and indeed to the whole world, how much this is truly a crusade, a crusade for decency, not carried out on a militant basis but on one where we stand firmly behind the great concepts found, indeed, in every great religion but more especially, I suppose, in the Sermon on the Mount, by which this Nation has lived and which underlies its founding.

You bring to the men actually in the Service a sense of doing a wonderful thing—that their sacrifices, the performance of their

duty, are important. You give them that sense of feeling, because you bring to them the certainty and the constant reminder that man is a spiritual being. You comfort the United States as it realizes that it has a long period of sacrifice ahead of it and giving of its sons and of its treasure and of its might, doing something that does not of itself advance the cause of human progress and human happiness, defending what we have.

This is a very difficult task, to take all of these complex ideas, these purposes, and put them before all of us in their proper perspective. And I can't conceive of anybody better—more equipped—to do this than the Chaplains Corps, both in its Reserves and active formations, because this is indeed a time of trial, when it tries men's spirits, not merely their pocketbooks.

So I think the one thing I would like to say above all else to you this morning is just simply: Thank you, thank you very much—personally, officially and every way I can speak.

Good morning.

NOTE: The President spoke in the Rose Garden at 9:00 a. m., immediately after presenting to Secretary of the Navy Charles S. Thomas the Association's distinguished service award. Chaplain Maurice S. Sheehy was President of the Association.

99 ¶ Statement by the President Upon Signing the Bank Holding Company Act of 1956.

May 9, 1956

I HAVE TODAY approved H. R. 6227, designated as the Bank Holding Company Act of 1956. Although the legislation has as its objectives (1) requiring bank holding companies to divest themselves of nonbanking assets and (2) preventing any lessening of competition in banking through the holding company device, as a result of various exemptions and other special provisions the legislation falls short of achieving these objectives. It does, how-

ever, represent a forward step in that direction, and I am approving the legislation for this reason. The exemptions and other special provisions will require the further attention of the Congress.

NOTE: As enacted, H. R. 6227 is Public Law 511, 84th Congress (70 Stat. 133).

100 ¶ Special Message to the Congress on the
Hoover Commission Report on Budget and
Accounting. *May 10, 1956*

To the Congress of the United States:

The Commission on Organization of the Executive Branch of the Government, headed by former President Herbert Hoover, has set important and desirable objectives for the improvement of Federal administration and for providing more effective methods in the financing and control of Government services. Cooperative action on the part of the legislative and executive branches is required in order to bring about more rapidly the fulfillment of those objectives.

The Commission's report on Federal budgeting and accounting practices is an important contribution toward the attainment of more effective and economical governmental services. It includes significant recommendations showing how the Federal Government can bring about improvements in budgeting, accounting, and management practices generally. Because these recommendations pertain to vital responsibilities of the Chief Executive, I am especially and personally appreciative of the contribution which Mr. Hoover and his distinguished associates have made.

These recommendations of the Commission have been studied extensively by the Executive Branch with a view toward identifying all possible actions that can be taken to strengthen the administration of the executive agencies. I have already approved

plans developed by the Director of the Bureau of the Budget to intensify efforts of the executive branch toward that objective. These plans include actions to accelerate the establishment and use of modern accounting methods and improved budget presentations and controls. I consider it desirable and necessary that the executive departments and agencies actively and fully participate in carrying out these plans.

The actions being taken by the executive branch to put many of the Commission's proposals into effect will require close coordination with the legislative branch and merit the support which the Congress should and can provide. I urge that the Congress seek the early enactment of appropriate legislative provisions to support the major objectives of the Commission's recommendations.

The initial recommendation of the Commission's report on budget and accounting calls for the strengthening of the management review and budgeting functions of the Bureau of the Budget. This is of signal importance to the attainment of the Commission's objectives in this field. It has a direct bearing on how fast and how well the executive branch carries out the plans which I have approved. Because the resources of the Bureau of the Budget must be increased if it is to provide, on my behalf, strengthened leadership in the improvement of executive branch budgeting, accounting, and other management practices, I am proposing to the Congress a supplemental appropriation to permit an expansion of the Bureau's staff for this purpose.

Today's Government demands the use of the best and most economical methods that can be devised. To that end, we should take full advantage of the constructive proposals put forth by Mr. Hoover and his able associates.

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

NOTE: The Commission's report, *and Accounting*" (Government dated June 1955, is entitled "Budget Printing Office, 1955).

101 ¶ Telegram to the President of Panama
Accepting Invitation To Attend the Meeting of
Presidents. May 11, 1956

His Excellency

Ricardo M. Arias Espinosa

President of the Republic of Panama

It gives me great pleasure to confirm my acceptance of your gracious invitation to attend the meeting of Presidents at Panama on June 25-26.

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

102 ¶ Letter to Major General William J.
Donovan Concerning the Dedication of World War
II Cemeteries and Memorials. May 12, 1956

[Released May 12, 1956. Dated May 11, 1956]

Dear Bill:

I am delighted to know that you can represent me at the ceremonies to be held in Europe during July, at which the American Battle Monuments Commission will dedicate the cemeteries and the memorials it has constructed to the Americans who gave their lives in their country's service in World War II.

As you know, the program of ceremonies which the Commission is arranging will be international in scope. The Commission has just advised me that the specific program will be:

Cambridge, England	16 July
St. Laurent (Omaha Beach) France	19 July
St. James, Manche, France	20 July
Epinal, France	23 July
Draguignan, France	26 July
Nettuno (Anzio) Italy	30 July

General North, the Secretary of the Commission, can advise you in more detail concerning specific plans and arrangements.

With warm regard,

Sincerely,

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

103 ¶ Letter in Response to Report of Neil McElroy, Chairman, Committee for the White House Conference on Education. *May 14, 1956*

[Released May 14, 1956. Dated May 8, 1956]

Dear Neil:

On behalf of the people of the United States and for myself, I want to express formally warm appreciation for the final report of the Committee for the White House Conference on Education, of which you were Chairman.

The Report is important for what it says, and for what it symbolizes—a free and vigorous people working to improve public education. It reflects widespread understanding that public education means public responsibility, not for a few people, or for the teaching profession, or for particular groups—but for everybody.

The Report presents the inescapable dependence, each upon the other, of a system of self-government and a system of education free of political restraints.

The Report confirms the critical nature of the classroom shortage in public schools, and recognizes the need for Federal assistance to help meet the emergency. This is one of the major goals of this Administration. If we are to keep faith with our children, the enactment of sound and effective legislation to help build more schools should not be further delayed.

The Report, of course, stresses much more than physical facilities for education. It recognizes the crucial importance of

good teaching, and the need for higher salaries and greater community prestige to attract more teachers. It is anchored on a fundamental principle; control of education should be as close as possible to parents and citizens in the local communities.

The Report says many things and says them well. Of course, there will be divergent opinions on the best methods of achieving the common goal set forth in the Report: the continued improvement of American education. These differences, however, are a reflection of our freedom at work. The resolution of these differences will provide, in the end, the kind and quality of education the American people want.

Throughout the State and local conferences, and the White House Conference, your Committee gave effective leadership to a broad awakening of public interest in our schools. Your Report should help point the way to a needed increase in public support for education over many years to come. I commend the reading of this Report to every citizen. I share your hope that the White House Conference program is only one step in a continuing effort to provide the best possible educational opportunity for each child.

Sincerely,

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

NOTE: The report, dated April 1956, House Conference on Education" is entitled "A Report to the President, the Committee for the White (Government Printing Office, 1956).

104 ¶ Remarks at the Opening of the Conference on Occupational Safety.

May 14, 1956

Mr. Secretary, Ladies and Gentlemen:

The concentration of three thousand people here in the City of Washington to conduct a conference on this problem of occu-

pational safety is the most heartwarming experience I have yet had in my months of examination into this problem.

I want personally to thank each of you for the interest you are taking in it. I want to congratulate you for the simple reason that I know that out of this conference will spring the greatest advance we have yet made in this field.

Now, on the highways we know we lose a tremendous number of our people each year—I believe thirty-eight thousand were killed last year. The number we lose through occupational accidents is not so large, but in a way it is more tragic.

In the one case, we have many millions of fast-moving units on the road with no possibility of coordinated control among them, except as they may choose to obey the laws in the areas in which they are driving.

In this occupational field we have much of our trouble arising in organized bodies and groups, in our factories and other places. Through proper spread of information, proper adoption of methods and procedures, we know that much of this could be eliminated. In other words, the fourteen thousand that we lose through occupational accidents seems to be more easily controllable within limits, at least, than does the other.

I don't know how many of the individuals in this audience have ever had the task—almost the daily task—of writing letters of condolence to families that have lost a dear one. For my part, I assure you, it is one of the most heart-breaking things I have ever had to do. And when you stop to think of fourteen thousand bereaved families in this country every year, occasioned by preventable accidents, it is indeed—to such a person as myself—a tragic fact.

So I believe that such people as yourselves have the solution largely in your hands. The Federal Government can do little. The President can call a conference to bring you together so that you may exchange ideas; so that each of you may gain some inspiration from the fact that so many people do come to look into this thing and show their determination to do something about it.

But the Federal Government's part here is limited very definitely to that of a general leadership. Federal law and Federal Government should not extend into the factory, into the farm, into the other places where these accidents occur. The community and the State, therefore, must pick up the burden of teaching, of devising, of planning, so that this tragedy is certainly lessened in extent and comes as close to the point of elimination as human ingenuity can bring it.

This is a short description of the feelings I had when, with Secretary Mitchell, we determined to invite you to this particular conference.

I again say: I thank you from the bottom of my heart for coming.

I have every confidence that from today forward—from the moment you return home—we will begin to show improvement, and we will improve all the time, each year, until practical elimination has been achieved.

Each of you will share in the great satisfaction that will come from that development. I for my part expect that I will look back on this day for a long time as one of the finest things that has happened for America in this line.

It is a serious problem, but as they used to say in the war when people would complain about how tough this particular job was: "Well, if it wasn't tough, they wouldn't have brought such good men to do it."

I say that to you.

Goodbye and good luck.

NOTE: The President spoke at Constitution Hall.

¶ 105 ¶ Special Message to the Congress
Transmitting Reorganization Plan 1 of 1956.
May 16, 1956

To the Congress of the United States:

I transmit herewith Reorganization Plan No. 1 of 1956, prepared in accordance with the Reorganization Act of 1949, as amended.

The reorganization plan is designed to improve the management of research and development programs in the Department of Defense. To this end, it establishes an office of assistant secretary for research and development in each of the three military departments. It thus places in effect an important recommendation of the Commission on Organization of the Executive Branch of the Government.

There is no function of the Department of Defense in which coordination leading to effectiveness and efficiency is of greater importance than in research and development. The National Security Act of 1947 established the Research and Development Board in the National Military Establishment. It was composed of representatives of the three military departments and a Chairman directly responsible to the Secretary of Defense, and it was intended to coordinate and eliminate undesirable duplication in the research and development programs of the three military departments. Time and experience proved that the Board was an organization unsuitable for the accomplishment of the required results. Reorganization Plan No. 6 of 1953 abolished the Research and Development Board and transferred its functions to the Secretary of Defense; further implementation of Reorganization Plan No. 6 resulted in the establishment of the office of Assistant Secretary of Defense (Research and Development) in the Office of the Secretary of Defense.

The functions assigned to the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Research and Development) include assisting the Secretary of

Defense on research and development aspects of Department of Defense policies, programs and plans, including capital and operating budgets. In carrying out those responsibilities, he must review the research and development programs of the military departments to see that they are well coordinated and that collectively they form a sound and integrated over-all Department of Defense program which is geared closely to current strategy.

At present the Department of the Army has a Director of Research and Development who reports directly to the Secretary of the Army. The Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Air has, among his duties, responsibility for research and development. An Assistant Secretary of the Air Force has been devoting full time to research and development matters. These arrangements, although constituting a recognition of the importance of research and development, are not adequate in present circumstances. In the Department of the Air Force the existing arrangement, while suitable for research and development matters, has resulted in inadequate provision for the coordination of other vital Air Force activities at the assistant secretary level. I am persuaded that the situation requires an additional assistant secretary in each of the military departments.

Accordingly, the accompanying reorganization plan establishes in each military department an office of assistant secretary for research and development. Each of these new officers will assist the Secretary in the improved coordination of the research and development functions of the military department concerned. It is my intention to appoint to these new offices individuals experienced in scientific fields and capable of assisting their Secretaries full time in reviewing the research and development programs of the military departments to see that they are well coordinated. Thus, the military departments will be uniformly equipped with technically skilled, full-time officials with the rank of Assistant Secretary charged with assisting the Secretaries of the military departments in the coordination of research and development functions. These officials, together with the Assistant Secretary

of Defense (Research and Development), will collectively form an improved organizational arrangement for the coordination of sound and interrelated research and development programs throughout the Department of Defense.

After investigation, I have found, and I hereby declare, that each reorganization included in the reorganization plan transmitted herewith is necessary to accomplish one or more of the purposes set forth in section 2 (a) of the Reorganization Act of 1949, as amended. I have found and hereby declare that it is necessary to include in the accompanying reorganization plan, by reason of reorganizations made thereby, provisions for the appointment and compensation of an assistant secretary for research and development in each of the military departments. The rates of compensation for those officers are those prevailing for comparable officers in the executive branch of the Government.

While the taking effect of the reorganizations included in the plan will not bring about immediate savings, it is probable that it will bring about substantial long-run reductions of expenditures and also greater effectiveness of administration. An itemization of reductions in expenditures in advance of actual experience under the reorganization plan is not practicable.

The reorganization plan is another step in our continuing efforts to provide the best defense organization possible. I urge the Congress to permit it to become effective.

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

NOTE: Reorganization Plan 1 of 1956 is published in the Congressional Record (vol. 102, p. 7449) and in House Document 405 (84th Cong., 2d sess.).

106 ¶ Toasts of the President and President
Sukarno of Indonesia. *May 16, 1956*

WE ARE GATHERED here, of course, to do our part in extending to the President of Indonesia and his party a welcome to this land.

Mr. President, gathered here are many members of the Executive Branch of our Government, the Chief Justice of the United States, distinguished members of the United States Senate and of the United States House of Representatives, as well as representatives of our industrial and educational life.

This representative body, I assure you, expresses the thought of America in saying to you; you are truly welcome and we hope you have a wonderful time in this country.

There are, of course, some parallels between your country and ours. Both of us were colonies. And both of us in our early years of freedom had some difficult problems to solve.

It happens that when we were in our eleventh year of independence, as you are now, the man whose portrait is on the far wall over there—John Adams—was President. One of the stories told about John Adams in this house—he was the first man to live in this house—was that his wife, Abigail, hung her laundry, done by her own hands, in the East Room—where we shall have coffee.

I tell this little story merely to show that in our time, in our eleventh year, we were going through a period where it was indeed difficult going. But we had friends on the earth, as you have. And I think it is to the credit of the human race that when they see an individual—or a nation—working or struggling to go higher in life so that men may realize more of their material and spiritual ambitions, there is always somebody ready to help them. Of course, there's always someone ready to step in our faces, too, but I think friendship is stronger than the jealousies and the hatreds.

At least this is my hope: During your visit here in America, you find much of interest that you can carry back and possibly even apply—or find some adaptation—to your own country. Above all, we hope—all of us here—that you will carry back with you a sense that the American people are truly interested in Indonesia and you and your efforts to raise the standards of all your people, to make for them a better life.

Gentlemen, would you rise with me and drink a Toast to President Sukarno. The President of Indonesia.

NOTE: The President proposed this toast at a luncheon given for His Excellency Dr. Achmed Sukarno at the White House. President Sukarno responded as follows:

Mr. President, Gentlemen:

Twice today I have expressed my admiration for the great American nation, and I hope to have still more opportunities not only during this visit of mine but in my whole life to

express again and again my admiration for the great American people.

This lunch, which I feel as an honor rendered to me, gives me an opportunity to express my admiration—my great admiration—for your great President, President Eisenhower

May I ask you to rise and to join me in drinking a Toast to the health of President Eisenhower.

107 ¶ Remarks at Dedication of General Motors Research Center in Detroit. May 16, 1956

[Broadcast from the White House over closed circuit television]

Members of the General Motors family:

It is truly an honor to participate with you today in this dedication of this new and great research center of America. It is a new adventure for frontiersmen. The history of America is a history of frontiers, and each frontier has been a challenge to Americans to dare more, to do more, to go forward faster and on a broader front.

We had geographical frontiers, always lying out there to the

West of the Appalachians, challenging every person that was an inhabitant of those first thirteen Colonies. And so we had Lewis and Clark, and Pike, and all the rest opening up that great country. Even today some of those frontiers still remain, and we have great and gallant Americans exploring the Antarctic and the Arctic. Always a frontier—the challenge—and the response.

We had our economic frontiers. We started as a nation of small farms and little shops when the fur trade was in its infancy. And we learned about the gold in California; we learned about the great expanses of the West where we could raise cattle and produce our food. Frontiersmen went into them. We built roads and railroads to open up all those lands. Inventors came along and we had great machines to meet our needs. And so we had the great economic revolution of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries that has so changed our lives.

We were a nation of political frontiersmen. The reason that today we so admire Franklin and Washington and Patrick Henry—Jefferson, Lincoln, is because they dared to think new thoughts about the way that men should govern themselves—the institutions and the procedures they should set up—and devised a scheme that has stood the test of time and has met our need for progress, with men enjoying equal justice, rights, and the great opportunities.

So it might be said that the frontiersman is symbolic of the United States. General Motors was founded by frontiersmen, people who were not satisfied with what we had and were determined to make it possible for men to travel faster and better and in greater comfort. Among those frontiersmen, two of your greatest were, of course, Alfred Sloan, Jr., and Mr. Kettering. Their accomplishments were so great in the technological field that today their names are household words in our country. Even since they have at least partially laid aside their work in that regard, they are still frontiersmen, showing us all how duties and citizenship can better be performed, how men can better discharge their duties in this country as citizens.

Here with me today is another frontiersman. I have just had lunch with him—the President of the great country of Indonesia. America is honored that President Sukarno has come to visit us. He wants to see, among other things, this great research center you are establishing, and he is going to visit you on May twenty-eighth.

This particular Center is a place for leadership in furthering new attacks on the technological frontier. Beyond that frontier lie better and fuller employment, opportunities for people to demonstrate yet again the value of a system based on the dignity of human beings, and on their free opportunities in life. Beyond it lie people, better capable of working with others so that they may share what they learn with our friends in the world.

We hope that we will be fortunate enough to be able to give President Sukarno something that he may carry to his people. We would be very proud indeed if he should find something here worthwhile carrying back.

So in this technological center, we have this development of new machines responding in their efficiency to the constantly inquiring mind of the technician, that they in turn will produce yet broader freedoms and richer dignity for human beings, more rewarding lives, for all America and we hope through all the world.

So now, as I say goodbye, good luck to each of you, let me wish every success to this new technological center of General Motors.

Good afternoon.

108 ¶ Special Message to the Congress
Transmitting Reorganization Plan 2 of 1956.
May 17, 1956

To the Congress of the United States:

I transmit herewith Reorganization Plan No. 2 of 1956, prepared in accordance with the provisions of the Reorganization Act of 1949, as amended. The reorganization plan is designed to provide the Federal Savings and Loan Insurance Corporation with its own management, independent of the Federal Home Loan Bank Board. This organizational change accords with a recommendation of the second Commission on Organization of the Executive Branch of the Government.

The management of the Federal Savings and Loan Insurance Corporation has been merged with and identical to that of the Federal Home Loan Bank System since the Corporation was established in 1934. It may well be that this identity of management was useful during the formative years of the Federal Home Loan Bank System and of the program of the Federal Savings and Loan Insurance Corporation. I am satisfied, however, that the time has come to separate the two agencies. Reorganization Plan No. 2 of 1956 establishes, separate from the Federal Home Loan Bank Board, a new board of trustees of the Federal Savings and Loan Insurance Corporation; vests the management of the Corporation in that board of trustees; and makes appropriate transfers of the functions of the Federal Home Loan Bank Board to the board of trustees and to the Corporation.

The present responsibilities of the Federal Home Loan Bank Board are principally (1) supervision and regulation of the eleven Home-Loan Banks established pursuant to the Federal Home Loan Bank Act of July 22, 1932, and of member institutions thereof, (2) chartering, supervision, and regulation of Federal savings and loan associations, under the Home Owners' Loan

Act of 1933, and (3), beginning in 1934, management of the Federal Savings and Loan Insurance Corporation, together with related supervision and regulation of insured institutions.

The reorganization plan is directed at the third of the foregoing, which is essentially a responsibility for the insurance of individual accounts in institutions of the savings and loan type, including concomitant supervision and regulation of insured institutions. Thus, the Federal Home Loan Bank Board will retain both its original functions relating to home loan banks and their member institutions, and its functions, under the Home Owners' Loan Act, of chartering, supervision, and regulation of Federal savings and loan associations.

The financial soundness of the insurance program of the Federal Savings and Loan Insurance Corporation is of major and increasing interest to the Government. Under the law the Treasury may be called upon to purchase up to \$750 million in obligations of the Corporation. The volume of savings insured by the Corporation has increased nearly sixfold in the last ten years and now stands at approximately \$28 billion.

In its audit reports submitted to the Congress from time to time the General Accounting Office has questioned the desirability of permitting an agency having the authority to promote and charter Federal savings and loan associations, which are required by law to be insured, also to administer the insurance underwriting. The General Accounting Office has stated that experience has shown that the responsibility for those functions are inherently conflicting and has recommended that the Congress consider separating the Federal Savings and Loan Insurance Corporation from the Home Loan Bank Board. The second Commission on Organization of the Executive Branch of the Government, in its report to the Congress on the subject of lending agencies, stated that there should be a clear separation of the management of the two agencies.

I am persuaded that separation of the two programs will enhance the quality of the management of the Corporation. It will

promote continuing public confidence in the savings and loan insurance program, and will better safeguard the interests of the Corporation and of the Treasury in minimizing the danger of losses arising from the contingent insurance liability.

The primary responsibility of the Federal Home Loan Bank Board will continue to be the encouragement of local thrift associations and the maintenance of a stable flow of funds for home financing by its member institutions. The reorganization plan will enhance the Board's ability to perform these functions by relieving it of its present conflicting responsibility for administering Federal insurance of savings and loan associations.

Reorganization Plan No. 2 of 1956 provides that the Chairman of the Federal Home Loan Bank Board shall be one of the three members of the Board of Trustees of the Federal Savings and Loan Insurance Corporation. That arrangement is considered desirable to foster coordination of the policies of the Corporation and of the Federal Home Loan Bank Board. Moreover, the arrangement corresponds generally to the interrelationship of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, which insures deposits of commercial banks, and the Comptroller of the Currency, who charters and supervises national banks and is a member of the Board of Directors of that Corporation, but does not otherwise control it.

Relationships of the Federal Savings and Loan Advisory Council will be affected by the reorganization plan to the extent that the Council will confer with the Corporation, in lieu of the Federal Home Loan Bank Board, on special conditions affecting the Corporation, and also will direct to the Corporation those of the Council's recommendations and requests for information which pertain to the Corporation. The plan does not otherwise affect the Council or the functions of the Federal Home Loan Bank Board with respect to the Council.

After investigation I have found and hereby declare that each reorganization included in Reorganization Plan No. 2 of 1956 is necessary to accomplish one or more of the purposes set forth in

section 2 (a) of the Reorganization Act of 1949, as amended. I have also found and hereby declare that it is necessary to include in the accompanying reorganization plan, by reason of reorganizations made thereby, provisions for the appointment and compensation of officers as therein provided. The rates of compensation so fixed are those which I have found to prevail in respect of comparable officers in the executive branch of the Government.

I believe that the reorganizations made by the Reorganization Plan No. 2 of 1956 will in the long run tend to reduce expenditures of the Government by reason of the more effective protection of the Government's large financial interest in the affairs of the Federal Savings and Loan Insurance Corporation and of the institutions insured by the Corporation. It is not practicable, however, to itemize at this time the reduction in expenditures which it is probable will be brought about by the taking effect of the reorganizations included in the reorganization plan. There will be a modest increase in the over-all operating expenses of the Corporation and of the Federal Home Loan Bank Board, which are financed from the receipts of assessments, fees, premiums, and investment income of the Corporation and of the Board, and not from ordinary Government appropriations.

The insured institutions, the holders of insured accounts, and the Federal Government all have a vital stake in the insurance program of the Federal Savings and Loan Insurance Corporation. Reorganization Plan No. 2 of 1956 will substantially benefit all of them. I urge the Congress to allow the reorganization plan to become effective.

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

NOTE: Reorganization Plan 2 of 1956 is published in the Congressional Record (vol. 102, p. 7528) and in House Document 406 (84th Cong., 2d sess.).

109 ¶ Statement by the President Upon Signing
the Second Supplemental Appropriation Act, 1956.
May 19, 1956

I HAVE TODAY approved the Second Supplemental Appropriation Act, 1956.

No funds are provided in the bill for the Tennessee Valley Authority to initiate construction of an additional steam-electric generating unit at the John Sevier plant. I am advised that a majority of the House Appropriations Committee believed that TVA could use its power revenues for this purpose, while the minority challenged this authority. I am also advised that the Senate Appropriations Committee expressed its conviction that TVA should not use its power revenues unless and until approved by the Congress.

This conflict of opinion as to the existing authority of TVA makes it imperative that Congress decide how new plants and additions to existing plants are to be financed. The Administration has recommended that they be financed by the sale of revenue bonds, subject to the usual Congressional and Budget controls. This recommendation has not as yet been acted upon. I again urge that the revenue-bond method of financing be authorized.

NOTE: The Second Supplemental Law 533, 84th Congress (70 Stat. Appropriation Act, 1956, is Public 161).

110 ¶ Letter to Percival F. Brundage, Director, Bureau of the Budget, on the Hoover Commission Recommendation on Government Reporting Requirements. May 21, 1956

[Released May 21, 1956. Dated May 11, 1956]

Dear Mr. Brundage:

The recent report of the Commission on Organization of the Executive Branch of the Government entitled *Paperwork Management, Part II, the Nation's Paperwork for the Government* directs attention to the problem of Government requirements which impose unnecessary paperwork on the public. The report recommends:

"That the President direct the Bureau of the Budget, together with its Advisory Council on Federal Reports and in cooperation with the General Services Administration, to give increased emphasis in their reports program to the need to protect the public from unnecessary reporting burdens by continuing the method of cooperation between industry and Government pursued by our task force as outlined above."

I endorse the Commission's recommendation that increased emphasis be placed on actions to reduce unnecessary reporting burdens on industry and the public. In recognition of the responsibilities for the improvement of government statistical activities and for the promotion of economy and efficiency in executive branch operations already assigned to the Bureau of the Budget, I believe the Bureau is the logical agency to assume leadership in such activities. A significant portion of the paperwork required of the public is associated with government forms and related reporting requirements which require your approval under the Federal Reports Act, and I am gratified at the substantial progress already made in this program by the Bureau and its Advisory Council on Federal Reports.

I wish you to give increased emphasis in this program to the elimination of reporting requirements which impose unnecessary paperwork on the public. With respect to matters not subject to review under the Federal Reports Act, I want you to proceed with the development, in cooperation with the affected executive agencies, of plans for eliminating unnecessary public reporting requirements and for simplifying related procedures and systems in such agencies.

In carrying out this program I assume that you will make maximum use of the advisory services of the Advisory Council on Federal Reports and its various specialized committees. You will also wish to consult freely with the affected Federal agencies and when appropriate with the General Services Administration. You are authorized and directed to issue such circulars or other instructions as you may find useful in carrying out this assignment.

I should like to receive from you by September 30, 1956, a report of your progress together with any recommendations you may have as to further steps required for the effective control of the paperwork burden on the public.

Increased efforts to reduce the reporting burden on the public, together with actions being taken by the General Services Administration and other executive agencies aimed at solution of paperwork problems within the Government, will go far toward attaining the desirable objectives of the Hoover Commission's recommendations for improvement of paperwork management. They form a logical and valuable part of the broader responsibility and program of the Bureau of the Budget to bring about better internal business management throughout the Executive Branch.

Sincerely,

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

NOTE: The report of the Commission on Organization of the Executive Branch, entitled "Paperwork Management, Part II," is dated June 1955 (Government Printing Office, 1955). In response to the Presi-

dent's request, a multilithed staff report entitled "Reduction of Paper-work Burden," dated September 28, 1956, was prepared by the Office of Statistical Standards, Bureau of the Budget.

111 ¶ Memorandum Stating Policies Governing the Leasing of Farm Lands by the Federal Government. May 21, 1956

Memorandum for the Heads of all Executive Departments and Agencies:

In order that the leasing of farm lands owned by the Federal Government shall be consistent with the Administration's determined effort to reduce price-depressing surpluses and to bring agricultural production into line with markets, I request that the following-described policies governing the leasing of farm lands by the Federal Government, to the extent that such policies are not inconsistent with law, be placed in effect by all departments and agencies concerned on the effective date of this memorandum:

1. Except as provided in paragraphs 2 and 4 hereof, leases of farm lands made by the Federal Government on or after the effective date of this memorandum shall prohibit the cultivation of price-supported crops in surplus supply.
2. In the case of acquisitions of farm lands by the Federal Government on or after the effective date of this memorandum, if price-supported crops in surplus supply are growing on such lands at the time of acquisition, the harvesting of such crops may be permitted.
3. No lease of farm lands by the Federal Government which is in effect on the effective date hereof shall be terminated under authority of this memorandum, but this memorandum shall not be construed to affect any authority which may otherwise exist for the termination of any such lease.

4. Upon the expiration of leases of farm lands by the Federal Government which do not prohibit the cultivation of price-supported crops in surplus supply (including those in effect on the effective date of this memorandum, and including those made as provided for in this paragraph, but not including any agreement made with respect to harvesting pursuant to paragraph 2 of this memorandum), whether such lands may thereafter be leased for the cultivation of price-supported crops in surplus supply shall be determined equitably. The controlling department or agency, according to its particular circumstances, may make such determinations on an individual lease basis or on an area basis. In arriving at such determinations, consideration shall be given to the interests of individual farmers and the local community, the supply situation of crops that might be grown on the lands, the effect on price-support programs, the objectives of the programs under which such lands were acquired or reserved, and maintenance savings and income to the Federal Government. If it is at any time determined, pursuant to this paragraph, that a lease of farm lands by the Federal Government shall prohibit the cultivation of price-supported crops in surplus supply, any lease of such lands made at any time thereafter by the Federal Government shall prohibit the cultivation of such crops.

5. In determining the acreage in each unit of farm land to be offered for lease by the Federal Government, consideration shall be given to the leasing of such land for family-size farm operations.

6. As used in this memorandum:

(a) The term "lease" shall include permits and licenses.

(b) The term "price-supported crops in surplus supply" shall mean those cultivated crops supported pursuant to the Agricultural Act of 1949, as amended and supplemented, and determined from time to time by the Secretary of Agriculture to be in surplus supply.

7. To insure that the leasing of farm lands by the Federal Government shall be consistent with the Administration's farm

program, the Department of Agriculture, until such time as some appropriate interagency group or committee may be designated, shall be available as a focal agency for consultation in such matters.

8. All departments and agencies concerned shall submit to the Bureau of the Budget within sixty days from the date of this memorandum copies of implementing instructions to their operating organizations.

This memorandum shall become effective sixty days after the date hereof.

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

112 ¶ Veto of Bill for the Relief of the Board of Commissioners of Sedgwick County, Kansas.

May 22, 1956

To the House of Representatives:

I am returning without my approval H. R. 1835, "For the relief of the Board of Commissioners of Sedgwick County, Kansas."

This bill would have the United States accept as a binding obligation and agree to pay to Sedgwick County, Kansas, \$259,925.09 as the unpaid balance of taxes for the tax year 1947 against certain real property formerly owned by the Reconstruction Finance Corporation. This payment is contingent upon enactment by the Kansas legislature of a law authorizing and directing acceptance of this amount as payment in full and as a release and forgiveness of all interest, penalties, liens, and charges connected with the taxes.

The property in question was acquired in 1942 by the Defense Plant Corporation, a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation. Effective July 1, 1945, the Defense Plant Corporation was liquidated, and the property involved was

transferred to the Reconstruction Finance Corporation. Subsequently, the Reconstruction Finance Corporation declared the property surplus, and on April 16, 1947, the War Assets Administration accepted responsibility and authority for the property. On February 25, 1948, the War Assets Administrator, acting on behalf of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, deeded the property to the United States, and custody and accountability was thereupon transferred to the Department of the Air Force, which has retained jurisdiction ever since.

The Federal Government is constitutionally immune from taxation by States upon property owned by the United States. The Congress may waive that immunity, and by general legislation it did so on real property of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation. With respect to the property involved here, however, the Reconstruction Finance Corporation took the position that the laws of Kansas themselves exempted the property from taxation. To settle this and other issues, the Congress enacted Public Law 5, 82d Congress, which gave the Court of Claims jurisdiction to determine the claim of Sedgwick County for taxes on this property for the tax years 1944, 1945, 1946, and 1947. Under this authority the Court of Claims, by decision dated July 15, 1952, determined that there was liability for taxes for the years 1944, 1945, and 1946, but not for the year 1947. The court considered separately the question of taxes for the year 1947. It concluded, in reliance upon decisions of the Kansas Supreme Court, that there was no 1947 tax due prior to the effective date of levy, which under the law then applicable was November 1. Since the transfer from the Reconstruction Finance Corporation to the War Assets Administration took place in April, no tax could become due for 1947 because the constitutional immunity had revived upon the date of the transfer, April 16.

The transfer of the property from the War Assets Administration to the Department of the Air Force in February 1948 has continued the tax immunity. However, as an interim measure, the Congress last year enacted legislation (Public Law 388, 84th

Congress, approved August 12, 1955) which is designed specifically to furnish temporary relief for the calendar years 1955 through 1958 for taxing authorities which have suffered an unexpected loss of revenue as a result of the Court of Claims decision in the Sedgwick County case. The Government is now making payments under that legislation, and I am informed that Sedgwick County has already filed its application for payment in lieu of taxes for the year 1955.

In the light of the foregoing facts, I believe that in considering this bill, which relates exclusively to the year 1947, I must also consider whether a claim for taxes for that year can be differentiated from a claim for the succeeding years up to 1955. The record in the case says that the Government applied for tax immunity for 1948 and subsequent years. Any such application has no bearing on the constitutional immunity. Therefore, I find no basis of distinction. I believe that to approve this bill would be a precedent for approving legislation for the other years, should claim be made. I also believe that to approve a bill for one piece of property, for one particular taxing jurisdiction, and for one particular year, would be to discriminate against other jurisdictions which are known to be similarly situated because of transfers of property from the Reconstruction Finance Corporation or because of the Sedgwick County decision.

Furthermore, I believe that approval of H. R. 1835 would be contrary to the principles pertaining to payments in lieu of taxation which this Administration has recommended to the Congress following study of the report of the Commission on Intergovernmental Relations. That Commission recommended "that the national government inaugurate a broad system of payments in lieu of property taxes to state and local governments," with particular reference to commercial and industrial property. After careful consideration of this general recommendation, I came to the conclusion that the magnitude and complexity of the problem is such that only a strictly limited program would be warranted at this time. Accordingly, it was recommended that any legisla-

tion should be restricted in application to communities which are able to demonstrate financial hardship directly attributable to Federal removal of real property from the tax rolls. It was further suggested by the Administration that this limited program be applied prospectively and then only to properties removed from the local tax rolls subsequent to June 30, 1950.

In addition to these general objections to the bill, I believe that the contingency proviso also is objectionable. Approval of any such provision, in my judgment, would imply acceptance of the principle that the United States Government is not immune from interest and other penalties. Federal immunity in these respects does not depend upon state law.

Fairness of treatment, and the same treatment for all similarly situated state and local taxing jurisdictions, must be the rule in any proposal for adjustment or imposition of tax liability upon the United States. Of course, we must also strive to relieve the hardship which may result from unnecessary inflexibility in the law. However, I believe that the enactment of individual, piecemeal bills does not serve the long run best interests of either local jurisdictions or the Federal Government. If statutory relief is to be granted, the legislation authorizing such relief should be limited as I have indicated and should be of general applicability.

For these reasons, I return H. R. 1835 without my approval.

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

113 ¶ The President's News Conference of *May 23, 1956.*

THE PRESIDENT. Please be seated. This morning we will go right to questions.

Q. Merriman Smith, United Press: Your Defense Secretary describes you as a bit unhappy because of the differences between the armed services. Could you elaborate on this for us, sir? Do

you yourself see anything in the situation that would require your direct intervention?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, let's take that last point first.

I am Commander in Chief of the armed services, as well as President; and there is no important question involving the military policy in which I am not involved or, you might say, in which I intervene; of course, I must.

I think we should get this thing among the services in proper perspective.

We are going through a period which any sensible man can see is one of change, fluidity, where we are deserting doctrines that have long been held sacrosanct in the services, and we are going into another kind of a world with respect to all military formation, policy and organization and equipment.

Now, if there weren't in this time a good strong argument among the services I would be frightened indeed. The only thing in which you might hear me say that I was unhappy is sometimes the way in which these arguments are conducted. It has been a tradition with military services that every single person and anybody on the staff or a subordinate commander is free to fight for his point of view to the ultimate of his strength, which he should do; he is not doing his duty unless he does.

Finally, there reaches a place in the military command where, depending upon the nature of the question, a decision is made. Then all loyally support that decision.

So as far as the argument itself is concerned, I believe it should go ahead and be carried out just as far as it possibly can be to exhaust every atom of logic and of fact, even of decent deduction that we can bring on everything that affects the problem. But I do say that we can still do it in such a way that we don't alarm everybody else.

Q. Rowland Evans, Jr., New York Herald Tribune: Mr. President, do you think, sir, that revolutionary advances in weapons and techniques of war, perhaps, suggest a broad new look at our basic military structure? And could you tell us, sir, whether you

have ever given any thought to the practicality of, perhaps, a more unified military structure, perhaps a single Chief of Staff or even a single service military organization?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, there are such things as academic study, pondering, contemplation of the things, and then any move to translate those into the field of practical operations.

Everything that you suggest I have talked over with many people for the past 15 years: whether it would be practical to have one service; how far can you centralize authority and responsibility in a field that is so vast that the operational force even in time of peace is three million men and you have everything from, say, a pistol to a hydrogen bomb.

This is a very, very intricate problem.

Now, the changing of these weapons every day brings new problems to the military. You don't have the comfortable period when the greatest change between, lets say, Crécy, when they first used gunpowder, and our Civil War was that you just in the Civil War introduced a breech-loading cannon instead of a muzzle-loading, and a breech-loading rifle instead of a muzzle-loading rifle.

This is a very comprehensive, all-important subject in the United States, and all of us should study it, but in a spirit of investigation and honest searching for the truth and not just to see whether we can promote a fight between Admiral X and General Y; I think that is foolish.

Q. Raymond P. Brandt, St. Louis Post-Dispatch: Mr. President, Senator Chavez and Senator Symington have announced they will call some of the military "Brass." Will those officers be permitted to tell of their differences with their superiors?

THE PRESIDENT. Differences with their superiors?

Q. Mr. Brandt: Yes; I mean the Joint Chiefs have a uniform——

THE PRESIDENT. I don't know what you are getting at, but I will tell you this: the day that discipline disappears from our

forces, we will have no forces, and we would be foolish to put a nickel into them.

Now, there comes a place in the military hierarchy where someone must make a decision, and that decision must stick. The President, constitutionally, is the Commander in Chief, and what he decides to do in these things, in the form and the way that you arm and organize and command your forces, must be carried out.

I have no objection whatsoever to a man giving his personal opinion, if he is asked for it, if he does it in the sense that "I am loyally carrying out what I am supposed to do"; and if he doesn't, if he isn't capable of doing that, then I would say a man isn't capable of carrying on the job that he has.

Q. Mr. Brandt: Mr. President, the Senators say that they have the constitutional right to raise the money and to support the armed services, therefore they have a duty to find out how the money is spent; and in the case of one Senator, he says that he thinks he will make, his subcommittee will make, recommendations on roles and missions.

THE PRESIDENT. Well, if he carries out his duty, I am sure I will try to carry out mine.

Q. William McGaffin, *Chicago Daily News*: Mr. President, I got a statement from the Attorney General, at your suggestion, but I don't feel that it has cleared up a question I put to you two weeks ago about certain documents which the Justice Department is refusing to turn over to an investigating subcommittee of Congress.

It has been charged that the Justice Department has no right to withhold these documents, and that this is another example of an executive branch of the Government blocking the right of Congress and the people to know.

In this particular case, the original documents are missing mysteriously, so Congress cannot subpoena them. But the Justice Department has a photographic copy of these documents, rather than Congress which ordered the investigation, because Edmund

Mansure, who has since resigned as GSA head, intervened in the case.

THE PRESIDENT. It seems to me you conducted an investigation on your own. [*Laughter*]

I got in touch with the Department of Justice on the point. They said this: that an investigation is going ahead. To this moment they have found nothing that justifies any action further than continued investigation. Until that investigation is complete, they follow their policy of revealing no information.

Q. Pat Munroe, Salt Lake City Deseret News: Mr. President, do you take the results of the efforts of Secretary McKay to win the senatorial nomination in Oregon as a repudiation of your policies on natural resources or are you cheered by the results?

THE PRESIDENT. I don't know. As far as I know, there was a contest carried out between two good Republicans. It was cleanly fought; they didn't call each other names, they went ahead, and I think it was a very good healthy thing. I haven't any further opinion on it.

Q. Mrs. May Craig, Portland (Maine) Press Herald: Mr. President, I believe that civilian heads of the services have the right to come directly to you with their opinions. Have you talked directly on their points of view or have you received it from Mr. Wilson and Admiral Radford and the Joint Chiefs?

THE PRESIDENT. Every Chief of Staff and every Secretary has been invited to come to my office any time he feels there is anything on his heart or mind that he ought to tell me. I have stated this thing to them collectively and, as far as I can remember, even individually. There is no one that is barred from coming to see me.

Q. Mrs. Craig: But on this particular controversy, have you had——

THE PRESIDENT. What particular controversy?

Q. Mrs. Craig: I mean the controversy over roles and missions, the thing we have been talking about this morning.

THE PRESIDENT. Mrs. Craig, that controversy has been going on since I joined the Army in 1911; and it is going to continue.

Of course, every one of them thinks—after all, you want him to believe that in his particular mission is the safety of his nation. But, we have just had recently an announcement that there is a reduction in the overall Russian strength.

In 1953, when we got all the scientists, all of the military people we could to get into this business, there was a name coined around here, "The New Look." I think it had some relationship to some new dresses that ladies were wearing at that time called "The New Look." But in any event, that is what it came to be known as, "The New Look."

That New Look, so far as I can see, is largely what the Russian is doing today. He is streamlining his organization. He is getting rid of people where they are not needed, concentrating his forces where they are needed, and getting more people back into industry. He is recognizing that both internationally and, above all, nationally, military strength, military security, is not alone in planes and ships and guns and bombs; it is in a strong economy, in a strong spirit in your people, and in the necessary amounts of these armaments.

But don't think for a minute that there are enough armaments in the world to make the United States safe just with armaments alone.

Now, each one of them, though, the Chief of Staff of the Army, the Navy, the Marines, the Air Force, each one thinks he has got the task to do, and he puts in a bill of goods that if you just took it and added them up and put them on top of each other, they would reach the top of the Washington Monument, and that is right. But then someone who has a higher decision to make has to get this thing leveled out. Now we're having a New Look every day.

Q. Mrs. Craig: Yes, sir. But have they laid their views before you directly?

THE PRESIDENT. As far as I know, every time they come up—there is no one in my office has ever been told that he was estopped from speaking. So far as I know, if any one of them has failed to tell me his views, it's certainly his fault.

Q. Joseph R. Slevin, New York Herald Tribune: Mr. President, in light of last week's administration announcement of a \$1.8 billion budget surplus for fiscal 1956 and in view of information you have about prospects for the year beginning July 1, do you believe that Congress should or should not cut taxes before it adjourns, sir?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, by no means do I believe they should cut taxes until we have made some little start on reducing this enormous national debt.

There is such a thing as fiscal integrity; I don't care whether it is an individual or a nation.

Now here, let's say we miscalculated from last January possibly 1.5 on the amount of the surplus. In a budget or in income of 67 or 68 billion, that is a very small percentage. And when you realize that in the days when income is coming in you can get in as much as \$2 billion in a matter of 2 days, and if the mail is, by some misfortune, a week late, you have that much of a leeway in all this income business, you can see that to begin to cut taxes on the prospect of being able to reduce a debt by one fraction of 1 percent, it is a very poor time to use that as an excuse to cut taxes.

Q. Robert G. Spivack, New York Post: Mr. President, several times in recent months there have been reports of shipments of, or new shipments of, military equipment to Saudi Arabia, and every time we ask at the State Department or the Pentagon for an explanation of these shipments, we are told that they are part of an earlier commitment. But we are finding it a little difficult to find out just what the nature of this commitment was, and for how much we are committed. Could you tell us?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I have to call on my memory, and I want to point out it is not infallible. As I remember, it was

finally approved last August. It was a very modest amount—it dealt only with internal security, as I remember it; \$16 million—that is the figure that sticks in my mind—is that correct? [*Confers with Mr. Snyder*]

THE PRESIDENT. Sixteen million dollars. This, let us remember, is a very vast country. You know how eagerly we have tried to prevent an arms race between Israel and the surrounding countries. This country has no common border with Israel, and we thought their argument was justified. And we have cooperated with them, particularly in the establishment of our big base, you know, over near the Red Sea.

Q. Garnett D. Horner, Washington Star: Mr. President, former Senator Cain said recently that he had been trying, unsuccessfully, to get directly to you his views about the Government employees security program. And I have been instructed to ask you if Senator Cain can see you if he wants an appointment?

THE PRESIDENT. Yes.

Q. Edward P. Morgan, American Broadcasting Company: Mr. President, both Mr. Dulles and Mr. Stassen have said that we have had enough advance warning of the Soviet troop cut to deduce that it was coming; indeed, a committee was appointed to determine what would be the best way to react. Can you tell us, under those circumstances, why there seemed to be so much difference in the various official reactions of our Government, and can you also tell us what you think the best reaction should be?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I don't know—the reactions to which you refer—except, of course, I have talked both with Mr. Dulles and to Mr. Stassen on this matter; and in my office the views expressed by both were those that seemed to me to be logical.

If it is in truth what the other people say, that it is a step in the reduction of armaments and armed might, then not only is it welcomed, but when final proof of such a thing comes about, it would be a very warmly accepted step, and it would be real progress.

But we don't know anything about what the meaning of it is.

The mere fact that you have reduced manpower strength by 1,200,000, when you still have 115 divisions; and when you have taken out, you say you have taken out, three air divisions, which may be in the order of two or three hundred planes, when you have a total of 20,000; when you have taken out a few vessels that we don't even know what they are—if that were in fact the removal of 375 new and modern submarines, why then, I would say now we are getting something. But we don't know what it is.

Now, your guess is as good as anybody else's what the actual intent of the Russian is.

That is the reason I say that we have no recourse today except to take a policy of our own that is calculated to meet our own needs with our allies, both in the minimum amount of arms, in the maximum of mutual help, in cooperating effort in this regard, and then watch hopefully, but still carefully, whatever the Russian does. That is all.

Q. J. Anthony Lewis, *New York Times*: Mr. President, your nomination of Solicitor General Simon Sobeloff to the Court of Appeals has been before the Senate for more than 10 months now without action. I wondered if you intended to continue supporting the nomination, and if you had any specific plans for encouraging early action?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I don't know what I can do, of course, about moving anything like that through a Senate committee.

I nominated Mr. Sobeloff on the same basis that I nominate every other individual to the Federal courts. His records are brought to me, I go through them from stem to stern. To my mind, he was a fine appointment to the Appellate Court. I would hope that he would be confirmed as rapidly as possible.

Q. Richard L. Wilson, *Cowles Publications*: I would like to ask a question that goes back a little bit in history, but has a present application. Do you recall who planned the action which resulted in the Anzio beachhead?

THE PRESIDENT. Anzio beachhead?

Q. Mr. Wilson: Yes.

THE PRESIDENT. Well, Mr. Wilson, it is quite a long story.

But there is this about it: it came about at about the time I was to leave the Mediterranean. As a matter of fact, it was thought of after I had been ordered out of the Mediterranean, and I was told about that when Mr. Roosevelt came back from Teheran. You would have to look up that date. It may be late November or something of that kind, or early December.

Then, before I left the theater though, which was along about the first of January, this thing had been thought of, but it was going to be executed after I left. So I examined it, my staff examined it, we had certain points to bring out—they were technical. I don't say we were correct. We did not at that moment, my own staff and I, favor the operation carried out in that particular way.

But there is this about it—later developments showed this: altogether the Germans took down into Italy to meet that operation 28 divisions, which were more than we had there. The whole thing was conceived of as a holding operation, and when you, with fewer forces, make the other man deploy that much, and over the tortuous line of communications he had, coming only through the Brenner Pass, I don't think anyone can call the operation a failure.

Now, the Anzio operation was to increase the danger to the German forces and to compel their falling back to uncover Rome and finally, of course, to bring down more troops.

Q. James B. Reston, New York Times: Mr. President, may I ask you a general question about foreign policy?

So far as we can determine public opinion in this country, there seems to be general satisfaction about the state of our foreign policy, and yet, seldom a week goes by but some person, not of a partisan nature, but some well-informed person, comes along to express real concern about the kind of slippage of our position in

the West vis-a-vis the Soviet world. Could you address yourself to that question, and give us your estimate of where we stand?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, ladies and gentlemen, there is no question that in the kind of problem that is facing the free world today there is every possibility, there is daily possibility, for some kind of disappointment, some kind of disapproval of action, to come about.

We are dealing literally with 50 countries. With each of them we have a problem. We try to deal with it on a friendly and sympathetic basis. But let me point out the number of situations in the world where, if you express even friendship for one country, you are automatically saying, "So I dislike the fellows that you hate so." We have desperately tried to keep the United States in the position where its influence could be helpful on both sides. We have tried to avoid participating directly in any quarrel.

Now, this question of slippage of which you speak could occur anywhere, but certainly it is more likely to occur in a whole congeries of equals saying they are trying to proceed toward a particular objective or aim than it is under a totalitarian form of government.

So, all in all, I think you must look over a period of time, and just today to hear yourself criticized very severely in a speech in a foreign parliament, in an Asian parliament, or anywhere else, is not in itself enough. You must look at what is going on in the world, how are we going? I think that there is too much pessimism expressed about the world today.

The entry of the Soviets into the economic field of competition, of course, is a new one. And, again, like the new problems in the military field, until you can get a whole group of conferring minds to agree on what it means, and what we had better do, you are going to have all sorts of criticisms and different kinds of speeches made all over the country.

So I say this: I don't mean to say that everything is going perfectly—far from it. I am too realistic for that. I do believe

that the determination of America to remain friends with every free country, to help where help is possible, to try to teach our own people that in helping those people we are helping ourselves, and I think this is far more true in some fields other than military, that we are making some progress, although it is slow and tortuous and, at times, disappointing.

Q. Mr. Reston: Mr. President, may I ask this one other question: Have you considered reviving the institution of the periodic fireside chat in order to make clear these very intricate complexities?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, yes, I have thought often of doing this thing. Actually I do appear almost once a week and I must get right here before this group, and questions are asked which, in general, should represent what is the thinking of America, because that is what you people are concerned in.

So whether or not it would be helpful to go in addition on sort of a periodic basis on fireside chats, I don't know; I just don't know.

Q. Marvin L. Arrowsmith, Associated Press: Mr. President, in somewhat that same field, can you tell us what you think about Egypt's recognition of Red China?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, of course, we think that Egypt is mistaken.

Now, again I want to point out that a single act on the part of another nation does not, of itself, destroy friendship for that nation or destroy your efforts to work with it in cooperation toward common goals.

Just like in your family, every difference or spat doesn't result in going to the divorce courts, in the same way here you can't take any one idea or any one act on the part of another government and say, "That's the end; that's that"—anything, I mean, short of something that is absolutely inconsistent with your own safety and security.

Q. John Herling, Editors Syndicate: Mr. President, during the last week three important labor conventions have been held

and they have passed very vigorous resolutions attacking the White Citizens Councils and have called upon you for an assemblage of southern governors to discuss ways and means of implementing the Supreme Court decision on desegregation of schools. Do you have any such intention or any plans in that direction?

THE PRESIDENT. I have no plans at this moment. That thought was expressed, oh, I don't know, some 6 or 7 months ago. We explored it thoroughly, and the Attorney General invited each governor and his attorney general in to see him, either individually or if they wanted to, some of them came together.

I am not sure that we want, at any time, a conference that would exacerbate this situation. We want to find something, some way to make progress, and to get the thinking of America centered on one common line, if we possibly can.

Q. Mr. Herling: Do you feel, sir, such a conference would exacerbate the situation?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, it would depend entirely on the way it was called, how it was done, I think. You certainly would have to look at the publicity that might come out of it, just like you do an international conference. I am not so certain that is the way to approach it at this time.

Make no mistake, I am ready to confer with anybody on this problem who wants to come in and see me; but to call a formal conference, always there must be a communique—you people insist on it. Well, what are they going to say? That could be very significant.

Q. Robert E. Clark, International News Service: Is there anything you can tell us about the success of the recent H-bomb dropped from a B-52?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, only that, of course, it was a much smaller bomb than some of the maximum ones that have been dropped before; that the purposes for which the AEC dropped it had been achieved, at least largely the investigations they wanted to make; that the cloud from this explosion, from which there

was expected a minimum of fallout because of its nature and its height, at least the immediate fallout, the cloud drifted off to the north. That's about all I remember at the moment.

Q. S. Douglass Cater, Jr., *The Reporter Magazine*: Mr. President, I ask this question in connection with your physical checkup which occurred since your last press conference. I wonder if the doctors have advised you or have you consulted with them on your capacity to withstand prolonged mental or physical fatigue, as such as would occur if there was a crisis comparable to the Korean crisis which occurred late in the evening and required a great deal of burning of midnight oil?

THE PRESIDENT. In the early days when the doctors got to what I thought was a little bit too optimistic a prognosis, I began to argue with them. I gave them many lectures on exactly what the Presidency was, but I didn't succeed in changing the mind of anybody.

Q. Chalmers M. Roberts, *Washington Post and Times Herald*: Mr. President, on this question of the service missions and the current arguments over it, is it possible that the problem really arises from a political decision or the lack of a change in our political position? I would like, against that question, to ask you whether, since Secretary Dulles, I think back in '44 [1954], enunciated the "massive retaliation," which later was changed to "selective retaliation," if we have changed our basic, what I would consider the political concept of using our forces, or are we still standing on that '54 decision? '53-54—

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I am not going back now and quote about Secretary Dulles' statement, because I would have to have the whole text in front of me to see exactly what his meaning was.

But the sole use of Armed Forces, so far as war between two great countries possessing atom and hydrogen bombs today is this: their deterrent value.

Now what is deterrent value? It is the certainty on the part of a fellow if he starts something he is going to get some of it in return.

Now, by miscalculation in other spots, wars can start, but I will tell you that if you are going to carry out a global war today between the two great power complexes of the Northern Hemisphere, and carried out to the ultimate, we wouldn't be around here meeting like this, that I assure you; that is the least of the things that could happen.

Q. Charles S. von Fremd, CBS News: Mr. President, on that same subject, do you think it would be possible for any nation in this time, who had a large control of hydrogen bombs, to win a war in a very short time, say, within 24 hours, by knocking out the major cities and farm centers of population of its enemy?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, you say "win a war." What would the other fellow be doing with his stuff while you were knocking out those cities? You can destroy unquestionably the productive capacity of a nation if it is carried out by surprise on the way you just state the case. But what then do you do to him?

So you have here a real shambles, and that is the thing that we must remember in talking about all these things.

I repeat again and again and again the strength of America is not to be found just in a guided missile or a bomb, no matter how big, or in the airplanes and everything. It is everything; it is an internal program as well as an external program. It is a sound base here, sound in our spirits, in our effort to comprehend the subject, and I don't mean to say that every individual has to be a military expert. As a matter of fact, I doubt if there has ever been any one of those on the earth anyway, because it is too complex.

But we must understand that this is the combined whole strength of America, such things as even school programs and farm programs and everything else that I worked for to balance the budget—they are all, when you come down to it, colored by or even caused by this great international situation—that is what we must do.

We must think of the whole thing and try to solve it as a unit,

an integrated problem, not one of just little bits of pieces all over the world.

And I tell you this business of trying to sort out what is best in the military and what is not best is the most complicated that we can run into.

Q. Francis M. Stephenson, New York Daily News: Mr. President, I wondered would you tell us your plans for filling the Office of Interior Secretary?

THE PRESIDENT. I can only say this: I don't know of anything I have thought more about and studied more on lately than that one.

Merriman Smith, United Press: Thank you, Mr. President.

NOTE: President Eisenhower's eighty-eighth news conference was held in the Executive Office Building from 10:32 to 11:05 o'clock on Wednesday morning, May 23, 1956. In attendance: 208.

114 ¶ Address and Remarks at the Baylor University Commencement Ceremonies, Waco, Texas. *May 25, 1956*

President White, the trustees, faculty, student body, members of the graduating class, and may I proudly say my fellow Texans:

Through the years, like most of you, I think I have done my share of bragging about Texas, about the ability of its men to work and to play, the beauty of its women, the fighting qualities of its soldiers. This morning I was forcefully reminded that Texans can also sing. My felicitations to this marvelous choir. I thoroughly enjoyed it.

To be Baylor's honored guest today is indeed a high privilege. This is a school of great achievements, of great goals. Baylor's ten schools and colleges are the fruition of seeds planted in 1845 at Old Independence. Baylor's graduates in positions of leadership testify to the wisdom and foresight of Baylor's founders.

Your magnificent Armstrong Browning library exemplifies the growth of Baylor as a principal cultural center of the Southwest.

This University is dedicated to true education; it strives to develop wisdom. This implies, over and beyond mere knowledge, an understanding of men's relationship to their fellow men in a world created for their stewardship by a God in whose image they are all made.

You have been taught here to do justice and to love mercy and to walk humbly before your Maker even as you use every opportunity to better yourselves through the profession in which you have been here grounded.

Now you enter a new phase of your life experience—in a world where the principles by which you live are frequently flouted and ignored. What is your place in this world? What can you do to improve it? Pointedly, what can each one of you as an individual do to promote a world society that respects the values in which you, and this school, believe so deeply. The thoughts I bring to you this morning deal primarily—and that most sketchily—with the international phases of a suggested answer.

I speak of international affairs for a very simple reason. In the fundamental struggle in which the world is now engaged, world issues create, or at least color, almost every domestic question, problem and issue.

Clear comprehension of the basic factors involved is vitally important to leaders and officials, indeed to every citizen of this country and of the world. Such understanding, I submit, is especially important to you young people who perforce must look at these critical current problems against a horizon of ten, twenty, forty years hence.

Today a militant, aggressive Communistic doctrine is dominant over much of the world's surface and over hundreds of millions of the world's people. In the post-war period, we have seen it indulge in a particularly cynical type of colonialism, expressed in the Communist subjugation of once free and proud nations in Europe and in Asia. Simultaneously, in the free areas

of the world, six hundred million people in more than a score of new countries have achieved independence.

Communism denies the spiritual premises on which your education has been based. According to that doctrine, there is no God; there is no soul in man; there is no reward beyond the satisfaction of daily needs. Consequently, toward the human being, Communism is cruel, intolerant, materialistic. This doctrine, committed to conquest by lure, by intimidation and by force, seeks to destroy the political concepts and institutions that we hold to be dearer than life itself. Thus Communism poses a threat from which even this mighty nation is not wholly immune.

Yet, my friends, Communism is, in deepest sense, a gigantic failure.

Even in the countries it dominates, hundreds of millions who dwell there still cling to their religious faith; still are moved by aspirations for justice and freedom that cannot be answered merely by more steel or by bigger bombers; still seek a reward that is beyond money or place or power; still dream of the day that they may walk fearlessly in the fullness of human freedom.

The destiny of man is freedom and justice under his Creator. Any ideology that denies this universal faith will ultimately perish or be recast. This is the first great truth that must underlie all our thinking, all our striving in this struggling world.

A second truth is that the fundamental principles of human liberty and free government are powerful sources of human energy, loyalty and dedication. They are guides to enduring success. They are mightier than armaments and armies.

Americans have recognized those two truths in the historical documents of the Republic. They are repeated in the preamble to the fundamental policy statement in our current series of national security directives. In part that preamble reads:

"The spiritual, moral and material posture of the United States of America rests upon established principles which have been asserted and defended throughout the history of the Republic. The genius, strength and promise of America are founded

in the dedication of its people and government to the dignity, equality and freedom of the human being under God.

"These concepts and our institutions which nourish and maintain them with justice are the bulwark of our free society and are the basis of the respect and leadership which have been accorded our nation by the peoples of the world."

That is the end of the quotation.

Now, much as we are dedicated to this expression of lofty sentiment, it will count for little unless every American—to the extent of his influence and capacity—daily breathes into it the life of his own practice. The test is the readiness of individuals to cleave to principle even at the cost of narrower, more immediate gains.

For you graduates, and for all citizens, opportunities to strengthen our assault on injustice and bigotry will be as numerous as the tasks you undertake and the people that you meet each day. Nothing I might add could either quicken your recognition of such opportunities or strengthen your response to them. But certain it is that in this recognition and this response will be found the measure of America's future safety, progress and greatness.

The third great truth that must underlie our thinking on international questions is this: People are what count. A sympathetic understanding of the aspirations, the hopes and fears, the traditions and prides of other peoples and nations, is essential to the promotion of mutual prosperity and peace. Such understanding is a compulsory requirement on each of us if, as a people, we are to discharge our inescapable national responsibility to lead the world in the growth of freedom and of human dignity.

Communism seeks to dominate or to destroy; freedom seeks to cooperate and to help others to build. But, my friends, these basic differences are not self-evident. Therefore, the people of the world are not necessarily thinking in terms of opposing concepts of communistic dictatorship and of human rights and freedom.

Rather, today, the most unyielding expression of peoples' aspi-

rations seems to be an intense nationalism. There is nothing to be feared in this—of itself. The right of a people, capable of self-government, to their own political institutions is deeply imbedded in American thinking. Among peoples as among our own citizens we believe the rights of the weak to be identical with those of the strong. And, in the past we have helped many small nations to independence. We will continue to hail with satisfaction the birth of each new nation whose people, achieving independence and freedom, become peaceful members of the world community.

In this day, however, one acute economic problem grows more acute as each new nation steps forward to an independent place in the international family. New nations, springing up, create new political boundaries. Far too often those political boundaries become serious obstacles to the flow of trade.

Such barriers are daily of more importance as increasing industrialization and specialization critically increase the economic inter-dependence of peoples. Specialization in any area—which implies an unbalanced local economy—is not necessarily a weakness, provided always that there is free opportunity for exchanging a portion of the products of such specialization for the other things needed to satisfy the requirements of all the people.

This means that, where any nation does not possess, within its own boundaries, the major elements of a broadly balanced economy, it is normally handicapped in assuring maximum satisfaction of human wants and prosperity for its own people. So we find that the emotional urge for a completely independent existence may seriously conflict with an equal desire for higher living standards.

This conflict, so obvious, is often ignored. But even the productivity and prosperity of this great country of ours would vanish if our States were 48 separate nations, with economic and political barriers at each boundary preventing or impeding the interflow of goods, people and ideas.

We must put to ourselves this question: How can we help answer both the great desire of peoples for a separate, independent existence, and the need for economic union or, at least, effective economic cooperation among them?

This question is of vital importance to every nation. Unhappiness, unrest and disaffection caused by depressed living standards can be as acute as when caused by political injustice. Disaffection, long continued, in any portion of the earth, can bring about political convulsions and grave global crises. In Communist areas the answer is achieved by compulsion.

But effective cooperation is not easily accomplished among free nations. Permit me in one illustration to point up the difficulty, among free peoples, of progress toward this type of union.

The statesmen of Western Europe have long been aware that only in broad and effective cooperation among the nations of that region can true security for all be found. They know that real unification of the separate countries there would make their combined 250 million highly civilized people a mighty pillar of free strength in the modern world. A free United States of Europe would be strong in the skills of its people, adequately endowed with material resources, and rich in their common cultural and artistic heritage. It would be a highly prosperous community.

Without such unification the history of the past half century in Europe could go on in dreary repetition, possibly to the ultimate destruction of all the values those people themselves hold most dear. With unification, a new sun of hope, security and confidence would shine for Europe, for us, and for the free world.

Another stumbling block to European unity is the failure of populations as a whole to grasp the long-term political, economic and security advantage of union. These are matters that do not make for a soul-stirring address on a national holiday. They can be approached only in thought, in wisdom—almost, I think we may say, in prayer.

Nevertheless—and happily—much progress has been made.

Years ago, our European partners began both to study and to act. Our country's help was given wherever possible because our own future security and prosperity are inescapably linked to those of our European friends. There was established the Brussels Compact, the Organization for European Economic Cooperation, the European Payments Union, the European Coal and Steel Community, and the Council for Europe. The North Atlantic Treaty Organization—NATO—although an organization comprehending much more than Western Europe, nevertheless provides the cooperative mechanism for greater security in the area. All these were set up to attack immediate problems in cooperation.

Despite setbacks and difficulties, these have been operating with increasing efficiency. So, European Union, one of the greatest dreams of Western man, seems nearer today than at any time in centuries, providing bright promise for the future of our European friends and for the growth and strength of liberty.

On a broader geographical scale, members of the Atlantic Community are working together in many different ways and through many different agencies. But such cooperation can usefully be further developed. At the NATO meeting several weeks ago it was decided that the members of the Atlantic Community should "examine actively further measures which might be taken at this time to advance more effectively their common interests." They designated a Committee of three Foreign Ministers to advise on "ways and means to improve and extend cooperation in non-military fields and to develop greater unity within the Atlantic Community."

This effort recognizes the truth that all peoples of the free world must learn to work together more effectively in the solution of our common problems or the battle for human liberty cannot be won. Among equals, attempting to perform a difficult task, there is no substitute for cooperation.

It is gratifying, to all of us, I know, to realize that Senator Walter George has agreed to act as my Personal Representative

and Special Ambassador in working for this new evolution of the Atlantic Community. Nothing could testify more forcefully to the critical importance of this project than the willingness of Senator George to undertake it.

Patiently but persistently we must work on. We must take into account man's hunger for freedom and for food; all men's dignity as well as some men's power; the eventual triumph of right and justice over expediency and force.

The responsibility for carrying forward America's part in helping improve international cooperation cannot be met through paper work in a governmental bureau. But it can be met through a combined effort by all of us, in and out of government, all trying to develop the necessary understanding that every international problem is in reality a human one. You—the fortunate graduates of this great institution—are in a particularly advantageous position to lead in the development of this kind of thinking and understanding.

You owe it to yourselves, you owe it to your country to continue your study and critical analysis of the great international questions of our day. You can join with like-minded men and women in the many voluntary associations that promote people-to-people contact around the world. By means of them, the thorny problems of the time are scrutinized from many viewpoints. Solutions are approached by many avenues. Creative thinking is sparked. Mutual understanding is furthered.

Thus, every thinking person will come to understand that his country's future will be brighter as the lot of mankind improves; that no nation can in the long run prosper except as the world enjoys a growing prosperity.

We must indeed be partners for peace and freedom and prosperity, if those words are to record achievement as well as to express a dream.

The foreign policy of this Republic—if it serves the enduring purposes and good of the United States—must always be founded

on these truths, thus expressing the enlightened interests of the whole American people.

Certainly the basic foreign relations measures taken by the United States in this century have been so developed. They do not belong to any political party—they are American. These measures range from our support of the Organization of American States to our membership in the United Nations and our present programs of partnership and assistance.

The United Nations by its very comprehensiveness is a unique association within which nations of every political complexion and philosophy have their place. The smaller groupings, in which we hold membership, are bound together by a common respect for common values. They conform, of course, to the United Nations Charter. But in each organization the likeness in background or interest or purpose that characterizes the membership and the restricted geographical limits within which it operates—assures more effective discharge of their functions than is possible in a group as large as the United Nations.

We shall continue in our loyalty to the United Nations. But we should, at the same time, further expand and strengthen our other international associations.

Some of them, although only a few years old, are already household words, recognized as immense contributions to the prosperity and security of particular areas in the free world—and to our own prosperity and security. Yet none provides a complete answer to any of our international problems. Again, consider NATO.

A united Western Europe may still be on the far-off horizon. NATO is nevertheless a great alliance, rich in human and natural resources. But this great array is neither self-sustaining nor self-sufficient. Its freedom and prosperity and security are intertwined with the freedom and prosperity and security of many other nations—old and new and still to be born—that people an even greater portion of the earth. Within this community of

freedom, all are more sure of their independence and prosperity and security when all of us join so that, first:

Mutual trade is fostered.

Legitimate political and economic aspirations are advanced.

Cultural traditions are respected.

The difficulties and misfortunes of the weaker are met by help from the stronger. To be backward, or penny wise in our practice of this truth can lead only to greater risk and greater cost—far greater cost to ourselves.

The ways in which progress along these four roads can be achieved are legion in number. The first, of which I've spoken at some length, is the need for the growth and spread of understanding among our own people. The next need is that the peoples of other nations must, through similar study and thought, recognize with us the need for this kind of cooperation. This is not easy. Many nations, though their cultures are ancient and rich in human values, do not possess the resources to spread the needed education throughout their populations. But they can wisely use help that respects their traditions and ways.

For example, the whole free world would be stronger if there existed adequate institutions of modern techniques and sciences in areas of the world where the hunger for knowledge and the ability to use knowledge are unsatisfied because educational facilities are often not equal to the need.

Do we not find here a worthy challenge to America's universities and to their graduates? I firmly believe that if some or all of our great universities, strongly supported by private foundations that exist in number throughout this land, sparked by the zeal and fire of educated Americans, would devote themselves to this task, the prospects for a peaceful and prosperous world would be mightily enhanced.

I honestly believe that the opportunity here for each educated American is invaluable beyond the comprehension, almost, of any one of us.

In no respect should the purpose of these institutions be to transplant into new areas the attitudes, the forms, the procedures of America. The staffing, the conduct, the curriculum of each school would be the responsibility of the people where the school might be built.

Each school would help each nation develop its human and natural resources, and also provide a great two-way avenue of communication.

Such a voluntary effort in people-to-people partnership would be a dynamic, a fruitful corollary to three elements already effectively at work in our governmental foreign policy. For example:

To our Atoms for Peace program.

To our efforts to establish a climate in which universal disarmament can go forward.

To our long-sustained campaign for the exchange of knowledge and factual information between peoples.

Purposes and projects such as these—formulated by Republicans and Democrats—are part of a comprehensive effort to meet present and future needs, to solve problems in the enlightened self-interest of the United States.

It is not a haphazard, makeshift arrangement to meet day-to-day crises—big or little or imaginary.

Instead, it is a platform for the development of a stable, prosperous, peaceful world. Immediately concerned with this year and next year, our foreign policy is a realistic approach to a better world for all in 1966, 1976, 1996.

The basic objectives I have described are in furtherance of the aspirations of those who founded this Republic. These objectives are plainly advanced if we foster and secure conditions at home and abroad with which this system of freedom can live and under which it can find fertile ground for acceptance and growth. Thus our security and our aspirations are linked with the security and aspirations of liberty loving people in many other lands. It is idle to talk of community of interest with them in measures for

defense, without recognizing community of interest with them in that which is to be defended.

So today it is vitally important that we and others detect and pursue the ways in which cultural and economic assistance will mean more to free world strength, stability and solidarity than will purely military measures.

You of this class, like all Americans, must act in terms of today. At the same time, you in particular should think in terms of those years that now seem so distant.

You have in your heritage the dynamic principles that arouse visions in mankind.

You have in your hearts and minds the means to lift the eyes of men and women above the drab and desolate horizon of hate and fear and hopelessness.

My friends of Baylor—as Texans, as Americans, you believe in the brotherhood of man, and in his right to freedom. You are joined with millions of dedicated men and women at home, and linked in partnership with hundreds of millions of like-minded people around the globe. So believing and so united, you constitute the mightiest temporal force for good on this globe of ours.

I thank you very much.

[Remarks after receiving the degree of Doctor of Laws]

I do trust sincerely that all members of the Baylor family and all of Baylor's friends can realize how deeply proud I am of this honor just conferred upon me by your President.

I further hope that the Graduates of 1956 from now on will permit me to claim the Class as my own, because I would be very proud to do so.

Thank you.

[*Greetings to the Graduates of the Air Force Reserve Officers Training Corps*]

It is a special privilege to speak to any group in uniform, especially one that has completed its preparatory work and is ready now to take its place in its own component of the Armed Services.

I have only a word to say to you, aside from congratulations. Your mission so far as the military phases of it are concerned is now a simple one: to do your part to provide the strength in seeing that this country will never again be at war.

It is through the strength you will provide that that time will be gained and the atmosphere created in which political leaders can negotiate for the kind of peace that will be necessary.

Good luck to each of you. My congratulations. My heartiest best wishes for your entire future.

NOTE: The President's opening words "President White" referred to William R. White, President of Baylor University.

115 ¶ Statement by the President Upon Signing the Agricultural Act of 1956. May 28, 1956

I HAVE TODAY approved the farm bill, H. R. 10875.

The heart of the bill is the soil bank. Its acreage reserve will help bring production of certain crops into balance with their markets. It will check current additions to our price-depressing, market-destroying surplus stocks of farm products. It is a concept rich with promise for improving our agricultural situation.

The conservation reserve feature of the soil bank can be the most significant advance in the conservation field in many years. It will result in improved use of our soil and water resources for the benefit of this and future generations. Together with the forestry provisions of the bill, it will increase our supply of much-needed forest products. It will help hold rain and snow where they fall and will heal with grass and trees the scars of erosion

which now mar our countryside. It will make for better land use in those areas of the Great Plains which have experienced dust storms. It will reduce the stimulus to livestock production, induced by feed-grain output on acres diverted from wheat and cotton.

The delay in the bill's enactment, however, makes it virtually impossible to put the soil bank properly into effect in 1956 and I am disappointed that advance payments to farmers are not provided for.

Most of the harmful provisions of the previous farm bill have been deleted or have been substantially modified. Some of them still remain, however, and some new ones have been added.

Sections 202 and 203, which apply to cotton, are particularly unfortunate. This administration is committed to a policy of orderly disposal of agricultural surpluses abroad and a healthy expansion of international trade. This policy is in our national interest and serves to promote the strength of the free world. These two sections call for measures which could result in a serious setback to this policy.

Section 203 requires the Government to follow an inflexible program of cotton export sales with little regard to costs and without adequate regard to the far-reaching economic consequences at home and abroad. In order to avoid seriously disruptive effects, this section of the bill will have to be administered with extreme caution.

Section 202 intensifies further the restrictions already applied on imports of long-staple cotton at a time when domestic cotton of this type is fully competitive with foreign growths and domestic consumption is rising. The same section of the legislation requires the Government to export Commodity Credit Corporation stocks of extra long-staple cotton, a type which we normally do not sell abroad in significant quantities.

Section 204 authorizes the President to negotiate agreements to limit certain imports outside the procedures established by our

Trade Agreements legislation. This section represents an undesirable complication in the field of foreign trade.

The effective operation of a two-price plan for rice is faced with several serious problems, which must be carefully evaluated before a decision is made as to whether to institute such a plan.

In freezing acreage allotments for rice and cotton for the next two years at the 1956 level the bill runs counter to the adjustment principle which underlies our basic agricultural legislation.

Despite the shortcomings of the bill, its advantages outweigh its harmful provisions. I am gratified with the constructive features it contains and I am hopeful that the Congress will review and repair its shortcomings.

NOTE: As enacted, H. R. 10875 is Stat. 188). For veto of earlier farm Public Law 540, 84th Congress (70 bill, see Item 82.

116 ¶ Statement by the President Upon Signing Bill Extending the Sugar Act of 1948.

May 29, 1956

I HAVE TODAY approved H. R. 7030, to amend and extend the Sugar Act of 1948, as amended, and for other purposes.

In addition to extending the Sugar Act for four years, the bill restores to the domestic areas the right to supply 55% of this country's increased requirements of sugar. The amendments also permit foreign countries to supply as much as they have been, plus 45% of the increases in our requirements. These increases will be most important relatively for the countries that heretofore have been minor suppliers.

It was not considered feasible to recommend an increase in the Philippine quota at this time. I believe, therefore, that when new amendments are being prepared at the conclusion of the present Act, consideration should be given to allowing the

Philippines to share in increased consumption, as is now provided for other foreign countries by this bill.

NOTE: As enacted, H. R. 7030 is Public Law 545, 84th Congress (70 Stat. 217).

117 ¶ Remarks at the National Citizens for
Eisenhower Executive Campaign Conference.
May 31, 1956

THANK YOU very much indeed. My difficulty this morning is not in any lack of subjects that I would like to talk about to such a group. My difficulty will be in stopping. I suppose I should start out by appointing a committee who would have that job; but in any event, if I get going too long, why someone can look bored and maybe I'll catch the hint.

I am more and more impressed as time goes on. Some people acquire wealth, some acquire experience and I suppose some even acquire wisdom. For me, I acquire anniversaries. Almost exactly four years ago to the minute, I left Orly Field to come home. I came home, in response—very largely the response—to a call from you people—your forerunners in this same movement, your associates all over the United States.

Some of your will had been expressed in New Hampshire, some in Minnesota, much of it by private letter. And I remember one of your number brought a two-hour movie to me, and made me sit down and watch it, until she had me practically in tears, and I thought the best thing to do was get up and go home.

We have been through a lot together. We were bound together by a series of determinations that to us represented ideals—ideas that we thought should be applied to the government of the United States. Likewise, we knew that ideas and ideals, no matter how perfect or how nearly perfect they may be, do not achieve real benefit for humans until they are trans-

lated into the field of practical action. In this case, practical governmental action.

And so there was a program developed that was designed to carry out the things that we were working for: good government, honest government, the kind of government that would not be satisfied with mere legal compliance with the law on the part of any official, but that the strictest code of ethics had to be observed or else that individual—that individual's usefulness—was ended in such a crusade.

And so we designed a program. You people, whether in the farms or the cities or wherever you were, helped to do it. Governmental officials traveled far and wide, committees came to Washington and we worked out programs that applied to the farm, to the city, to our foreign affairs, and that program still stands as the great guidepost for everything the Administration does or tries to do.

Peace abroad, a prosperity widely shared at home, fairness and justice for all, honesty and integrity in government. Just words, of course. But they express ideas, and the program that was devised with the help of all the citizens brought about a practical platform of work that has guided us ever since. Never have we deserted it.

Now of course, the very fact that you are here today means that you yourselves want me again to carry the burdens that I have been carrying for the past four years, to continue in the work and along generally the same lines that we have been pursuing.

I want to say only one word this morning about party as such: I am a Republican in our two-party system. Consequently, to do that work best, I think it is only logical that the people you give to me as my closest associates—if that responsibility is again laid upon me—be bound to me by terms of party loyalty as well as official and personal loyalty. I think it is quite clear that in that way we preserve the integrity of the two-party system and

make it possible to hold one single party responsible for anything that happens within the Federal government.

I thought this morning as I was coming over here, that I would begin to review for you some of the things that have happened to date.

Abroad—such things as the termination of the conflict in Korea; our final movement into Vietnam, taking over partially from the French in order to make certain that that entire country and peninsula did not fall into the hands of the Communists. The settlement of the Iranian trouble—or at least the beginning. The elimination of Trieste as a sore spot. The quieting of many of the more difficult situations around the world that were causing trouble among our friends, and therefore trouble for us.

All of these are not settled, but America has preserved its position as the friend of all, in a position of strength always to move in and help in the settlement of these quarrels—removing of the reasons that have led to these situations.

We have not been drawn into the position of being so completely on one side of a quarrel—any quarrel—due to emotion or sentiment or anything else that we are incapable of carrying out our proper role of mediator, conciliator and friend of both sides when there is any possibility of settling a quarrel.

At home you know the record. There is no use of me going through it this morning. I would rather talk for a moment about ways to make sure that this great middle-of-the-road philosophy of government can continue its influence in our lives.

Now then, first of all, I want to make it perfectly clear we are not carrying forward dead forms. I believe someone once said, “From the altar of the past we carry forward the fire, not the ashes.”

That is what we are doing. We are trying to carry forward the fire that is built up out of sentiment, of which I spoke to you earlier, and apply that to the problems that we find in today's world. We are trying to make certain that the goals that we have set for ourselves come a little nearer in achievement. We

know that these goals are not achieved all at once. Mankind moves forward by little steps. It doesn't have the inexhaustible power—the intellectual capacity—to drive straight for a goal. It has to tack. But if we never lose sight of that goal and every step takes us one inch closer to it, then that is progress. We are carrying a torch. We are carrying a fire. We are not carrying ashes.

This group, the mere organization of it, does something for an individual like me. I read once—I believe it was a modern playwright who said, "The great generals of the past never had to look over their shoulders to see whether their followers were going along with them."

I suppose that sentence was written to tell about the great virtues of these leaders and how they instilled morale and organized a group dedicated to a cause so that they were perfectly confident as they went ahead that their supporters and associates were there.

As I thought over my experience with the Citizens, I have sort of changed my mind as to what that sentence might have meant. It might have meant that most great generals in history were merely made by the fact that they were so lucky to have good followers they had to run pretty fast to keep out of the way.

And that is what I feel about the Citizens. Never for a moment in these past three and a half years has there been a time when any grave question was up for settlement that there wasn't consciously on the table in front of us all and often in terms of specific mention: "The Citizens would have expected this; this is the way they would have done it. Or this we believe is more in keeping with what the Citizens meant when they elected us to office."

Now that is the kind of group I see the Citizens to be. I hear people talking about such words as "complacency." It has no place in my vocabulary. Such people as the Citizens know this: when you are in a battle you bring forward everything you have;

you accumulate your supplies; you get the best plan you can devise, and then you throw in your last reserves.

We find reserves not only among ourselves. We are going to search out the people that haven't been doing their duty as citizens and voting. We are going to get them all to come out. Unfortunately, I think, not all of them will vote for our side. But if they vote, at least they are doing their duty and to that extent, at least, the form of self-government justifies itself and we go forward that much more. But it is sure that for every person you bring out, some of them are going to vote and give you—and the people you have selected to represent you—that vote of confidence which is now so important as we face the problems of the next four years.

I don't want to take time to outline them except to say this: the goals we have set for ourselves have not been reached. But progress has been made. There has been, I think, dedicated work in the great attempt to keep our economy stable, by going forward, to making certain that the products of our great industrial and agricultural nation are more widely shared; to make certain that we stand strong in the councils of the world—strong militarily, strong economically, strong intellectually and spiritually—so that our place as a great leader of nations toward these will never be lost.

I think it is fair to say that work has been done along that line. Certainly the prestige of the United States since the last World War has never been as high as it is this day.

Now these are the things that remain to be done to advance that position in the world, to meet the Communist threat in every conceivable way it can appear, whether it be in propaganda, whether it be economic, whether it be political. We know that we have largely nullified its reliance upon force and threat of force, because it has gone to different kinds of influence. We know that it has felt the pressure of ideas and ideals circulating in its own country and back of the Iron Curtain, because they are more concerned with development of consumer goods, more con-

cerned with the status and the frame of mind of the people. They have only recently given, for the first time, the permission to the laborer to quit one job and go to another, under many restrictions, but nevertheless it is an advance. That is the kind of thing that is going on in the world. Every bit of it means progress. It must continue. The progress must continue at home.

For myself, as you know, I was ill last fall. I can only say this: now the only way I know it is because the doctors keep reminding me of it. I am perfectly ready to go forward at the behest of such groups as this—and do the very best I can in attaining the objectives that I know within me you want.

That is the only reason for doing so, but with that reason I will do it as cheerfully, as energetically, as enthusiastically, as it is possible for me to do.

To see you here today will send me back feeling a lot better. I wish I could sit here and participate in all your deliberations, but I know without being here that you are simply going to stick to the things we always did: clean government, good government, progressive government, a government that knows its place and doesn't interfere too much with me as I go about my daily business.

I assure you that when I say "me," I think I am speaking for each of you.

Thank you very much for inviting me over. It has been a very enjoyable occasion for me.

Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at the the Statler Hotel, Washington, D. C.,
opening session of the conference at at 9:00 a. m.

118 ¶ Letter to Arthur F. Burns, Chairman,
Council of Economic Advisers, Appointing Him
Chairman of Cabinet Committee on Small
Business. *June 1, 1956*

[Released June 1, 1956. Dated May 31, 1956]

Dear Mr. Chairman:

The important contributions made by small business concerns to the progressive spirit and vitality of the American economy have repeatedly been stressed in my Economic Reports to the Congress and on various other occasions. Such enterprises, of which there are some four million currently in operation, serve continuously as a dynamic influence in our enterprise system. It is often through them that new products and new processes are first brought into use. Equally important, it is in small concerns that many men and women find an opportunity to demonstrate their ability to serve constructively in the business world. For these and related reasons, government policies that make it easier for new businesses to be established and that foster the growth of small concerns enhance the welfare of the whole economy.

The Federal Government has a number of programs now in operation that are significantly helpful to small businesses.

The Department of Commerce helps constantly in the solution of management problems for small businesses through its Office of Technical Services, Office of Area Development, Business and Defense Services Administration and Office of Business Economics.

Financial assistance is available to small concerns through the Small Business Administration.

Jointly with the Department of Defense and with other Federal departments and agencies, the Small Business Administration assists small concerns in obtaining government procurement contracts.

Many small construction companies and related businesses benefit from the home financing programs administered by the Housing and Home Finance Agency.

The Office of Defense Mobilization seeks to strengthen the production potential of small firms in our defense programs.

Through its enforcement of the antitrust laws, the Department of Justice helps maintain the competitive environment that is essential to the nation's economic welfare.

These and other programs and policies of the Federal Government facilitate the establishment of new concerns and foster the growth of small businesses. Yet the conditions of our modern economy are such that many small concerns confront substantial hindrances to their growth. It is my wish that the Federal Government keep fully abreast of developments that affect small businesses. Its programs and policies aimed at assisting small businesses should be carefully reviewed at this time with the object of strengthening them where necessary, and of making recommendations for steps that will provide such enterprises with additional constructive assistance.

To this end I am establishing a Cabinet Committee on Small Business of which I would like you to serve as Chairman. By copies of this letter I am designating the Secretaries of Defense, Commerce, Labor, the Director of the Office of Defense Mobilization, the Administrator of the Small Business Administration and the Administrator of the Housing and Home Finance Agency as Members. Other department and agency heads will participate on an *ad hoc* basis as may be deemed desirable. The Committee is to have the continuing assignment of making specific recommendations to me for administrative actions, and where necessary for additional legislation, to strengthen the economic position of small businesses and to foster their sound development.

Sincerely,

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

119 ¶ Remarks at Dedication of AFL-CIO Building. June 4, 1956

President Meany, My Fellow Americans:

I am delighted that I have been invited by President Meany to pay this neighborly call from my place across the square. Now, we have been neighbors for quite a while, but as you know, the lease I have on 1600 is temporary. I have indicated my willingness to renew the lease for four years, and therefore my satisfaction, and one of the things I like so much are my neighbors.

Regardless of my tenure in that house across the square, I express this hope: that I shall always be as welcome over here as the men of this platform will be over in my office to discuss anything of mutual interest to us both.

I was delighted to hear President Meany say that this building is dedicated, among others, to those great labor leaders of the past who have done so much to advance the living standards of all Americans. I would like to pay my tribute to them. I know their spirit lives on in the hearts and souls and purposes of those who now lead the labor movement.

I should like to pay special tribute to one who has most recently passed on. Mr. Matthew Woll, who was my warm friend, worked so hard for the ideals that you have heard expressed by the two previous speakers this morning.

Since I last visited this building at the cornerstone laying, the most significant thing in labor has been the merger of the AFL-CIO. There is great new strength thus available to the organization as a whole and to its leaders.

Vast new opportunities open up before them, accompanied by a vast increase in responsibility. The greatest of those responsibilities is, of course, that there be sustained in this country—through this leadership—free democratic institutions in labor that are in keeping with our own national ideals and institutions.

Labor organizations and government alike must serve the individual and not seek to dominate him. People are what count. Each individual here in this audience—and your fellows throughout the entire population of America—is, under our concepts, more important than any other single item in our whole galaxy of national assets. Dedicated to the service of people, that is what both labor and government must always be.

The great essayist, Carlyle, said, "Labor is Life." In that great essay he pointed out that labor brings order out of chaos, that it leads to true knowledge. Labor creates patience and courage. Labor makes men great. This is why he said, "Labor is Life."

I think we could add to that on our own account this morning: Labor is the United States. The men and women who, with their minds, their hearts and hands, create the wealth that is shared in this country, they are America.

I am, of course, happy to be here at the dedication of this great building as I was to be here at the cornerstone-laying. But our deepest thoughts and our deepest purposes this morning do not deal with stone and mortar; they do not deal even alone with the glorious record of the labor movement in the past—with its accomplishments. They deal with our hopes, our prayers, our determination for the future.

I think all of us would like to say this morning, when this building has completed its usefulness to the labor unions, when it has disappeared to make way for a new building, and the one after that has disappeared to make room for still another, that people—a people truly prosperous, secure, at peace, and above all, free—will have the privilege of gathering at those ceremonies of cornerstone-laying and of dedication, and that they may salute a free trade unionism which has continued to make equal opportunity available to all—to all people. Free—under a free nation—the United States of America.

Thank you, my friends.

NOTE: The President spoke at 11:00 a. m. His opening words "President Meany" referred to George Meany, President of the AFL-CIO. Later he paid tribute to the late Matthew Woll, former Vice President of the AFL-CIO.

120 ¶ Exchange of Messages Between the President and President Sukarno of Indonesia.

June 5, 1956

Dear Mr. President:

Your gracious and heartwarming message written on the eve of your departure from the United States reached me this morning. I am deeply gratified that you and the members of your party have enjoyed your brief visit to our shores, and I bid you farewell and Godspeed with the hope that you found what you sought in America as a state of mind and as the center of an idea. The mastery of time and distance which modern science has given us makes it relatively easy for a visitor to travel among us. To find what is in men's hearts is a much more difficult task. Your message leads me to believe that you have succeeded.

You have taken something of America with you. At the same time you have left with us a feeling of friendship, warmth and sympathy, and a deeper understanding of the common hopes and aspirations shared by all mankind. By your frankness and eloquence you have given us a greater insight into the aims and aspirations of your new nation and have strengthened the ties of sympathy, respect, and understanding between our peoples.

Assalamu 'alaikum, selamat djalan,

Sincerely,

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

NOTE: The closing words of the President's letter are translated "Peace be with you."

President Sukarno's message, dated June 4, 1956, follows:

Mr. President:

When I accepted with such pleasure your invitation to visit America I sought advice on what I should bring with me and on what I might expect to find here. I discovered that one visitor to these hospitable shores was advised in these words: "He may bring with him a feather bed, bolster, pillow, blankets, a rug and three pairs of sheets. Many households in Virginia are so well provided as to entertain a stranger with all things necessary for the inner man, yet few or none are provided for the back". That Mr. President was advice given to an immigrant in 1634.

I didn't follow that advice.

You have provided me with all things necessary for the inner man, the back and the mind. Your other guests and I are taking back with us much more than we brought. We are taking back a widened knowledge of your country and people; a deeper appreciation of what America means in the world. Shortly after we arrived you did me the honour of referring to me as a frontier man, a compliment which I value highly.

I have read of your frontier and the hard men who pushed it westwards until the American Nation

faced the Pacific and became in fact the neighbour of Indonesia. Pioneers, explorers, men of intrepid mind and stout body, are needed the world over to push forward the frontiers of knowledge, the frontiers of liberty.

Mr. President, by your hospitality, I have seen a little of how this great nation under your guidance is attacking those problems—how man's knowledge is being increased and how the burden of hard physical labour is being reduced. We have learned much from our visit. We have gathered many impressions and those impressions will take some time to fall into a pattern.

This is certain however: we have benefited greatly from your kindness and hospitality. Apart from whatever your guest has learned, the strong ties of friendship between our peoples have been drawn closer.

President Eisenhower, the Indonesian Nation has long owed a debt of gratitude to the American Nation during our struggle for the recognition of our independence and sovereignty. The United Nations played a great and conciliatory role and the United States was foremost in the activities of the United Nations, which eventually brought peace and relief to the weary people of the Indonesian Archipelago.

Since those days you have given us technical assistance. You have sent us experts in various fields. You have helped us to defeat some of the

old and evil things which hampered the development and progress of that reborn nation. Those things have provided a bond between us just as the fact that you are a great market for our natural wealth provides a bond between us. Those bonds are not enshrined in formal words or treaties, they exist most strongly in the friendship, the understanding, the sympathy between the two nations.

I recall from my reading of American history that William Penn once made an agreement with the Indians in a place called Shackamaxon which means "The Place of The King." In Shackamaxon under the elm trees, there William Penn and the Indians made an agreement which was not signed. They formu-

lated perhaps the only treaty without signature and which has been forever respected. Perhaps such agreements as that are more binding, are more real, than formal documents. I would like to think, Mr. President, that the relations between our two peoples will remain always strong, always friendly, always relations of sympathy and understanding, always relations of equal esteem.

President Eisenhower, in taking leave of you, I wish to express my personal thanks, and of all your other guests, for the warmth of your reception and kindness extended bountifully during our visit to your country.

Thank you, sir. Goodbye and may God keep you.

SUKARNO

121 ¶ The President's News Conference of June 6, 1956.

THE PRESIDENT. Please be seated.

Ladies and gentlemen, I think I will take a little bit of your time this morning myself. This is the anniversary of D-day. I told someone the other day I seemed to collect anniversaries, and this is a very important one.

We know something of the cost of that war. We were in it from December seventh, '41, till August of '45. Ever since that time, we have been waging peace. It has had its ups and downs just as the war did.

I want to point out one thing: America never got discouraged in the war. Possibly that is because the objective was so clear: defeat and destroy the enemy; make him stop fighting.

In waging a peace, the objectives are not quite so clear. They come before you in a series of pictures, some of them rather confused, with the main issue of freedom against dictatorship in the world. The situation is confused by age-old prejudices and difficulties and mutual antagonisms in different areas of the world that make the unification of the free world by cooperation, which is the only way it can be done, very difficult indeed.

So the case is not so clear, but the importance is even greater, because today we are spending, let us say, on the order of \$40 billion a year waging peace. That comes about through the amount we put into our defense establishments, the amounts that we spread abroad to make certain that our allies are in position to carry out their functions in any difficulty, more, I should say, in their functions in preventing war, in carrying on all the activities that are involved in mutual security.

Of that \$40 billion a year—and I think it is probably going to last that way for some time, certainly in that level, until there is a better situation in the world—some 10 percent of it, a little more, is put in what we call mutual security.

I personally believe that if you don't support mutual security earnestly, sincerely, and with the clear realization that we are serving America's best interests in so doing, that we are going to spend many more billions in this static, negative defense.

And may I point out, ladies and gentlemen, there is no amount of money that you can pour into bombs and missiles and planes and tanks and guns that will assure you peace. After you get to a certain point, it is a very, very emphatic case of diminishing returns; and it is better, certainly it is more profitable in the long run, to put some of your money, a reasonable amount, in constructive things that tend to make people respectful of the great values that we are supporting, the liberty of the individual, his right to equal opportunity in his own country, to pursuit of happiness.

If you are waging peace, you can't be too particular sometimes about the special attitudes that different countries take. We were a young country once, and our whole policy for the first 150 years

was, we were neutral. We constantly asserted we were neutral in the wars of the world and wars of Europe and its antagonisms.

Now, today there are certain nations that say they are neutral. This doesn't necessarily mean what it is so often interpreted to mean, neutral as between right and wrong or decency and indecency.

They are using the term "neutral" with respect to attachment to military alliances. And may I point out that I cannot see that that is always to the disadvantage of such a country as ours.

If a nation is truly a neutral, if it is attacked by anybody—and we are not going to attack them—public opinion of the world is outraged.

If it has announced its military association with another great power, things could happen to it, difficulties along its borders, and people would say, "Good enough for it. They asked for it."

So let us not translate this meaning of the word "neutral" as between contending military forces, even though the conflict is latent, and neutral as between right and wrong.

This whole subject is so complicated—tied up in it today are such things as the Status of Forces agreement and others—that I can't take your time to talk about it except certainly in response to questions this morning. But on Saturday next, the Secretary of State is going to deliver a talk to try to bring all of these details out, etch them clearly in simple form for us so that we can all understand exactly what it is we are trying to do in waging the peace. I believe he is to make this speech out in Iowa, I think before Ames University.

In any event, it will be a definite attempt to bring this thing down to its realities, to its specifics, so we can all understand it. He is doing it not only with my approval but really with my great support and urgent hope.

Now, I am not going to speculate this morning on how far we have come in the waging of peace, again a very intricate subject, what has gone on in the world, the ups and downs, what has gone on within the Soviet Union. But this fact remains: as long as

we are not shooting, we are not spending one-tenth as much as we would if we were shooting. And, remember, there is no destruction that we saw in World War II—and some of you, I know, have been through the most destroyed parts of Japan and Germany and other nations—but there is no destruction that you have seen that would even give a hint of what another war would bring.

We must continue to wage the peace. We must not be parsimonious. We must support such programs as the Mutual Security Act and we must continue to study it. I have proposed, as you know, a continuing, bipartisan, outside study of our future program so as to keep us on the best track possible. But I would think it would now be tragic not to support these programs cheerfully and adequately.

That is my speech.¹

¹ On June 7 the White House released the following statement, authorized by the President, supplementing his news conference remarks with reference to neutrality:

Questions have been presented to the White House concerning the exact meaning of expressions in the President's press conference yesterday defending the rights of certain nations to a neutral position. He particularly referred to neutrality as a refusal to take sides in any military lineup of world powers.

It is obvious that in some countries of the world there are certain ideological, geographical or other reasons making military alliances impractical. Such nations may declare themselves to be neutral, hoping thus to secure the support of world opinion against attack from any quarter. Neutrality does not mean either disarmament or immunity from attack. We have had historical examples of this kind of neutrality for many decades.

The President believes in the principle of collective security whereby the nations associate themselves together for each other's protection. This is the modern and enlightened way of obtaining security. The United Nations was designed to provide collective security for all. In view, however, of the veto power in the Security Council it has proved necessary to organize for collective defense under the provisions of Article 51 of the Charter. The United States has such collective defense arrangements with 42 other nations and it believes that, under present conditions, these treaties represent the best and most effective means of preserving world order within the framework of the United Nations Charter. Our Mutual Security Program is primarily designed to reinforce that world order. The President does believe that there are special conditions which justify political neutrality but that no nation has the right to be indifferent to the fate of another, or, as he put it to be "neutral as between right and wrong or decency or indecency."

The President does not believe that association for mutual security with the United States will involve any country in added danger, but on the contrary, will provide added security on the basis of mutuality and scrupulous respect for the independence

Q. Robert E. Clark, International News Service: Mr. President, there have been several developments involving the Soviet Union since we last met with you, including the text of the Khrushchev attack on Stalin, the Twining visit to Russia, and the replacement of Molotov as Foreign Minister. Can you give us your appraisal of these events as indicators of what is going on in the Kremlin?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, Mr. Clark, it is very difficult to give any definite appraisal of these several acts. Now, the speech itself, of course, purported to be an excoriation of a dictator. Actually what it was was an excoriation of dictatorships, because there was not a single mention made of any effort to change the methods of dealing with individuals who offend the state. It was merely that the wrong individuals apparently were picked.

The speech was an extreme one, of course, and it was unquestionably a deliberate part of this business of de-Stalinizing the Communist Party. But aside from that, I think it was more for home consumption than it was anybody else's. But, as I say, it is really an excoriation of dictatorship and a clear indication of how they regard the individual as opposed to the state.

With respect to General Twining's visit, he received this informal invitation that was confirmed through the State Department. I felt that there was no reason why a responsible officer of our Government shouldn't accept such an invitation, well knowing that I might be expected to extend exactly the same courtesies to one of their people that they extend to ours. I will do exactly that, the same courtesies, on the same conditions, and conducted in the same way.

With respect to the Molotov resignation, it is an item that has been a matter of speculation for some years. I have not talked to the Secretary of State specifically about the significance of this point. I doubt that they yet have any real conviction on it.

of each. As the President pointed out, the United States is not going to attack anybody; but some great powers have shown an aggressive disposition, and military association with such a power could lead to difficulties.

Q. Peter Lisagor, *Chicago Daily News*: Mr. President, some members of Congress believe that Marshal Tito's apparent reconciliation with Moscow warrants the cutting off of substantial reduction of aid to Yugoslavia. Could you tell us how you feel about that?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, again you get into a complicated thing that will take quite a bit of time. But I point out that you are waging peace, and why was Marshal Tito received with such acclaim and so elaborately in Moscow? Well, it was because of the success that he had had in defying the regime, and to get him back at all, they had to make great concessions.

I should think that in the central headquarters of communism they would be thinking very seriously about what their satellite governments think of the experiment and the experience of Marshal Tito, and they might be tempted at other places to emulate him.

I would think that the Tito incident is not wholly and entirely a loss. However, I do agree that where we stand has to be re-evaluated. We have to take a look at where we stand with this individual now and what serves our best interests.

That is the way we ought to solve it, because every nation approaches all international problems from that position. And the reason we help and assist others is in the belief that this will help us, also.

Q. George B. Holcomb, *Labor's Daily*: Mr. President, in the list of important legislation recently which you issued, there is no reference to the extension of Federal minimum wage laws or to extension of Federal protection of individual civil rights. Would you discuss why you dropped these particular items?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I haven't dropped them, because they are very live ones in Congress today. The Attorney General is constantly meeting with respect to the program he took down, and so is the Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare.

Q. Merriman Smith, *United Press*: Mr. President, do you

plan to do anything to help Senator Wiley, who is in quite some difficulty with his own State party organization in Wisconsin?

THE PRESIDENT. My attention was called this morning to a statement of Senator Wiley's which expresses my opinions exactly. He is in a primary contest, and until the people of Wisconsin decide who is to be the nominee of the Republican Party, he said he did not expect and he believed he did not want any so-called support from the administration.

I don't believe it is a place that the President of the United States should be interfering.

Q. Ray L. Scherer, National Broadcasting Company: Mr. President, the other day you told Citizens for Eisenhower that the only way you could tell you were ill was when the doctors reminded you, and that you would campaign as cheerfully and enthusiastically as you could.

THE PRESIDENT. No, I didn't. I didn't say "campaign." You look up my words. I said I would carry my responsibilities as cheerfully and as enthusiastically as I ever have. I didn't say I would campaign. [*Laughter*]

You had better read it very accurately.

Q. Mr. Scherer: With that appendation, some of your supporters read it as I did, and they are wondering if this is another way of saying that you might do more than the six TV speeches that Len Hall specified.

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I didn't know he had specified that number, and I have not discussed the details of the campaign with Mr. Hall or with anybody else in any specific or definitive form.

Q. William McGaffin, Chicago Daily News: Mr. President, have you any thought, sir, on whether it would be desirable to change the campaign contribution system, and if so, how it might be changed?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, of course, you have seen all of the different ideas from Federal financing on down that have been advanced. I personally believe about all you can do in this country is to be very vigilant in policing this business. We do want

to keep it clean and decent, but I don't believe you can just do that merely by a law. We have got to have people all through all the States that are really dedicated to it.

Q. Garnett D. Horner, *Washington Star*: Mr. President, a committee of the Washington Board of Trade is seeking ways to revive the project to build a stadium in Washington. Do you believe a stadium is needed here, and if so, do you have any suggestions as to how to approach the problem of finding space for it and financing it?

THE PRESIDENT. To the first part, my answer is an emphatic "yes." Of course I think the Nation's Capital should have a splendid stadium. As you know, just before I became ill, I organized a great committee to find ways and means of attracting more of our young into active participation in athletics, because of the direct relationship, according to statistics, between healthful physical exercise and the absence of delinquency, and even absence of mental retardation.

I am all for an athletic program, and I don't see how it could be better symbolized than by a good, big stadium in this city.

I think it would have to be, and would be, of course, largely a city thing; but the Federal Government is here, and there might be some way, through urban redevelopment, or some way in which the Government itself might help somewhat. That will have to be explored.

Q. Harry W. Frantz, *United Press*: Mr. President, I wish to ask two questions about your planned attendance at the Panama meeting which have been suggested by various reaction stories. First, do you have any reports or any expectation that all or nearly all of the presidents would attend, or is the attendance likely to be scattered? And secondly, the absence of an agenda has been rather widely commented. I wondered what was your thought about the substantive aspects of the conference?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, first of all, I do anticipate that there will be a majority of the presidents there. The last time I heard, they had received acceptances, I think, from fifteen.

As far as the purpose of the conference is concerned, the Organization of American States is a very important feature in our international life, and one which we support enthusiastically. I would personally like to pay a call at each one of the other states. You don't have to use your imagination to see how difficult, indeed impossible, this would be; but here, by gathering all the presidents, any individual such as myself and each of the others is enabled in one visit to pay at least a token visit to the other countries of the hemisphere, and it becomes, therefore, a social-ceremonial visit which you hope will do something in developing that closeness of understanding and relationship which is important to us all.

Now, it is not the kind of a meeting where there could be a great agenda, because staffs are going to be small. Merely a meeting of the presidents is the main part of the meeting.

Q. Charles E. Shutt, Telenews: Some leading Democrats have suggested, sir, that prior to the campaign and the election, that both candidates be examined by the same panel of maybe three doctors. Would you give us your views on what you think about that suggestion, sir?

THE PRESIDENT. This is the first time that there has been any hint that the doctors who have been examining me and publishing their reports could be mistaken or were coloring them. I don't care—if my doctors want to, they can call in a doctor from every university in the United States. If there is anything wrong with me, I would like to know it.

So I have no objection whatsoever to doing anything that my doctors advise me to do.

Q. Ruth S. Montgomery, International News Service: Mr. President, recently when the Democrats decided to make you the direct target of their campaign, you said you had been shot at before. Well, now, some of the top Democratic strategists tell me that this plan of theirs is backfiring; so they are going to change their tactics and picture you as an amiable figurehead in the clutches of the heartless men around you. Would you comment on that? [*Laughter*]

THE PRESIDENT. Well, sometimes I'd like to think of myself that way, but I am afraid if you would go back and visit with my staffs, starting back in the crowded days of the 1930's and on up to the present, all of them wouldn't give you that picture.

Q. Kenneth M. Scheibel, Gannett News Service: Mr. President, do you think you are going to have a tough battle to be reelected, or will the Democratic candidate be fairly easy to beat?

THE PRESIDENT. Will you take an honest answer? I haven't thought a single thing about it. I am too busy.

Q. Edward P. Morgan, American Broadcasting Company: Mr. President, another legislative item. Your administration has backed legislation for emergency help to the country's chronic depressed areas. However, that legislation is now still in the committees of both Houses, and it was not included on the White House list of important legislation last week. Does this mean that you have downgraded the importance of the problem?

THE PRESIDENT. Not at all. I was putting things down that, some of them, weren't moving very well. Now, this one has been under consideration from a number of different ways, not only the bill itself, but in a general mobilization bill that Arthur Flemming administers. Through every number of different bills, there is some help you can give, through small business bills and all the rest of them.

So just to name that one alone is really downgrading my interest in it, because my interest is much more than is contained just in that single bill.

Q. Sarah McClendon, El Paso Times: Mr. President, you have recently sent a message up to Congress asking for some exceptions from the McCarran-Walter act, and it seems to be hopelessly bogged down. There is no action taking place up there. But the situation has arisen on the Mexican border down in the El Paso area where we have 200 Mexican families that right away face breaking up, separation, and deportation because of this act.

I wonder if there is anything else that you could possibly do to get Congress to act to make exceptions for these friends?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, in this particular case, of course, I think that that should be taken up through the Bureau of Immigration, and if necessary you would have to get a special bill. That is what happens. I don't know how many hundreds of bills I sign each session of Congress because somebody is being unjustly treated, husbands separated from their wives, children from their parents, and so on.

This one, under present law, would have to be handled specially. I have been trying my best for 3 years to get authority for these things to be handled administratively so you don't have to go through this long process. But so far we haven't gotten it.

Q. Robert W. Richards, *The Copley Press*: Mr. President, two bills on your must list are out of committee, the postal rate increase and school construction bills, but some congressional leaders have been fearful that in an election year they might go down the drain. Are you going to use a stick to help them along?

THE PRESIDENT. I supported both bills in every possible way. There is no meeting I have with any Congressman of either party, I think, when I don't bring these up unless it is just absolutely, completely inappropriate—for example, when you have a meeting on one special thing, like last night, foreign affairs.

But I regard it high time that the postal service was getting somewhere near a self-supporting agency.

And as far as schools are concerned, it is just clear, we need schools. We need schoolrooms and we must produce them. We have developed a plan where we wouldn't have the Federal Government in this business forever; we would get the buildings done on an emergency basis and get out of it which is what I believe; and I think we should do it right away.

Q. David P. Sentner, *Hearst Newspapers*: Mr. President, in any invitation you might extend to the Soviet Union military leaders, is it possible you might include General Zhukov?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I don't know that there will be any extended at all. There was an invitation to our Chief of Air Staff to come over for a particular day, a particular ceremony, and then to stay a little while.

Now, as I say, anything that would be done would be on a completely reciprocal basis. If our Defense Secretary were asked, I would ask their Defense Secretary, and the same kind of visit would be arranged for them as would be arranged for our people.

Now, if they ask Secretary Wilson, I would ask Marshal Zhukov.

Q. John Herling, Editors Syndicate: Mr. President, would you be good enough, sir, to clarify the administration's position in regard to the forced labor, the Forced Labor Convention, which is being brought up at the ILO Conference in Geneva this week? There still seems to be some doubt as to whether the administration is absolutely against forced labor and for a Forced Labor Convention or whether it merely wants to confine the Convention on Forced Labor to matters so produced in interstate commerce—international commerce.

THE PRESIDENT. It is obvious that the answer of any government to forced labor is always the same. It is absolutely in opposition to everything in which America believes. So that point is clear.

The only difficulty that has arisen with the other at all is the proper material for an instrument that is an international treaty, because if you allow things that deal strictly with internal affairs to become parts of international treaties, you might some day get in some difficulty.

Now, if you will go to the Secretary of Labor, he will give you the exact language on which we have agreed, and certainly he makes clear our opposition to this whole business.

Q. Mr. Herling: But actually, sir——

THE PRESIDENT. That is all I have to say on it.

Q. Marvin L. Arrowsmith, Associated Press: Mr. President, since General Snyder said the other day that he would prefer to

have you vacation somewhere other than in an altitude like Colorado's, we have been getting some inquiries as to whether you actually do plan to go back to Denver this summer. Are you in a position to discuss your vacation plans, particularly whether you will go out to Colorado?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I saw some remark of General Snyder's to the effect that if he had been asked, he would rather advise against it. Now, why, I have never even inquired from him, because at least one doctor that I had, classed as a specialist, insisted that the Denver altitude has nothing whatsoever to do with coronary thrombosis.

For myself, I like that area so much that it will be a great trial if I don't go, but I have not made up my mind. There is no fixed plan of any kind.

Q. Chalmers M. Roberts, Washington Post and Times Herald: Mr. President, in taking the position in the Wisconsin primary that you would not take sides until the party voters have decided, is that not different from the stand you took in Oregon by backing Secretary McKay?

THE PRESIDENT. No, not at all, because I wrote Secretary McKay a letter on the day he went out on the understanding that there would be no other candidates in the Republican primary. I misunderstood the situation and I explained both to him and to his opponent that I didn't intend by any manner of means to take part in any Republican primary.

Q. Laurence H. Burd, Chicago Tribune Press Service: Mr. President, before you nominated Mr. Seaton as Secretary of the Interior, some Republicans had urged you to name Mr. Davis as the logical successor to carry on the McKay policy. And since then there have been some suggestions that the failure to name Mr. Davis was a repudiation of Mr. McKay's policy. Could you tell us what factors led to naming Mr. Seaton? And did it reflect any dissatisfaction in McKay?

THE PRESIDENT. It certainly didn't reflect a dissatisfaction with Secretary McKay. It was just exactly what I do in every

case. When there is a vacancy in a high governmental position, I personally spend days and nights looking for the person that I think best qualified on a rounded basis to meet it, and there are many qualifications other than merely supporting a particular policy of the administration. There is the effectiveness of the individual. There are many things, his background, and also the area from which he comes. In this case, these two men you mentioned were from the same State. But it was merely my effort to select what I thought was the most effective man in the position.

Q. John L. Steele, *Time Magazine*: Mr. President, in connection with your remarks on General Twining's visit to Russia a few moments ago, you talked about reciprocal courtesies, and I wondered whether anything has been done or will be done to invite General Twining's opposite number to come here.

THE PRESIDENT. Well, there is this about it. If we have any indication that he would like to come, he will be welcome to exactly the same kind of things over here that General Twining saw over there.

Q. Benjamin R. Cole, *Indianapolis Star*: Mr. President, a few weeks ago a House Foreign Affairs subcommittee wrote a report on a trip it made to the Orient last fall. One of the things they brought up in that report was their anxiety that our motives in our technical assistance program were being misunderstood by the people of the Asian countries, and since we have discussed mutual security today, would you mind, sir, discussing the technical assistance program as a thing apart from that?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, now, let's make one thing clear. I think we have made mistakes. In all things human there are mistakes. This thing has represented an activity in which we have not been very experienced; it was new. But let us remember this: I insist we are waging peace. We are not trying to buy gratitude. Merely because you put something some place, you shouldn't expect these people to fall down in gratefulness and remain prostrate. What we must remember is that they

know that although we are helping them, we are doing it in the certainty that in so doing we are also helping ourselves. That is the reason we changed the name some years back from Foreign Aid to Mutual Security, and that is what it is.

So I think that there can be a better job done, all right, on the explanation of our peaceful purposes. I have been abroad many years. It has been brought to me many times that the United States is impulsive, it is young, and because it is strong it is a warmonger and that sort of thing, or it is apt to toy around with situations that would lead to war, and the job of assuring the world and convincing the world of our peaceful intentions is a serious one.

That is one reason I so strongly support this people-to-people contact rather than government-to-government.

Q. Robert G. Spivack, *New York Post*: Mr. President, I would like to clarify or ask you to clarify one of your answers earlier in reference to the must list.

THE PRESIDENT. To the what?

Q. Mr. Spivack: To that must list, or the list that you sent two weeks ago.

THE PRESIDENT. Oh.

Q. Mr. Spivack: On the civil rights proposals, there were only two listed on your must list, but in your original list there were five. Could you tell us what determined the omission of the other three, the other three points?

THE PRESIDENT. You mean, I put two on the must list?

Q. Mr. Spivack: Yes.

THE PRESIDENT. Well, there were only two that I ever did send down as recommendations for legislation. The other two I said I thought they should instantly study and see whether they wanted to put them in legislative form. And I think we are just following that same pattern.

Q. James B. Reston, *New York Times*: Mr. President, you referred to the distinction between people-to-people contacts and government-to-government contacts. As I understand it,

the Soviet Union prefers the latter, whereas we prefer the former. Confronted with that dilemma, what is the policy?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I don't know that you can say that you have a policy with respect to such a thing. In our country it is certain to be a combined effort, and in theirs. But in ours, the emphasis, where we put it, is on the individual and on private institutions.

For example, not long ago in Baylor, talking about this same subject, I indicated that I thought here was a great field for the universities and foundations, many of which are already in it, you know, but for them to expand it through private means. But all the way through, the Government is in it because it has to create the climate where these things can occur; it has to make certain our citizens are protected, and so on. The Government is always in it. But in their case, it seems like everybody they trust is a Government official, and so whenever anybody comes over here, he is somebody that carries an official designation. I think it results from the different organization of their country as compared to ours.

Merriman Smith, United Press: Thank you, Mr. President.

NOTE: President Eisenhower's eighty-ninth news conference was held in the Executive Office Building from 10:32 to 11:06 o'clock on Wednesday morning, June 6, 1956. In attendance: 212.

122 ¶ Remarks to a Group of Young Republicans. *June 6, 1956*

I HAVE HEARD it said by older people that every time they run into a bunch of young ones, they say, "Doesn't that make you feel old?"

Well, it doesn't me. I get so much fun out of seeing young people and believing in young people that I think it takes the years off me. I get a big lift. So the first chore I want to perform this morning is: Thank you for coming. You have done a lot for

me. I mean coming over here to the White House and giving Mrs. Eisenhower and me a chance to say good morning and hello.

The satisfaction, of course, that I feel is not limited merely to a personal one. By joining the Young Republicans, you show a determination early to take seriously the duties of a citizen in a free country, to perform them, and to help others perform them. I think it is one of the priceless privileges of free government. Those of you who have happened to travel abroad, where conditions are very much different, will know exactly what I mean.

I not long ago saw a group of Freedoms Foundation leaders—from Valley Forge. They are getting the Boy Scouts, I notice, again this year, as they did in 1952, to canvass every home and to make sure that everybody votes.

Now of course, you and I hope they vote properly; that is, Republican. But above all—vote.

It is trite to say that the world is in a crisis, we are going through new problems. When the day comes and you are standing in some such spot and talking to people forty or fifty years your junior, you will say, "You are facing newer and more severe problems than the world has ever known." That has been so since the world began, and it will continue.

But problems, all problems, tend to disappear in front of an earnest search for the truth and the application of the truth to the problems of the day according to a given group of sound principles.

A political party is a group of people who are dedicated to common principles of a political and economic nature. If they are not that, they are merely an organization for seizure of power. And I know one thing: the young folks are not interested in that. They are interested in ideals, what this world is going to be in which they have to live, and doing something about it.

Incidentally, let me digress for a moment—I used the expression "in which you have to live." If I have any one single bit of philosophy, it is "in which you will be happy to live." Everybody ought to be happy every day. If you don't have some fun every day, that day is wasted. You have got a long time on this earth, and

if you will meet your problems as they come up and get the satisfaction of a job well done—play hard—have fun doing it—be true to your friends—stick with them—despise wickedness and dictatorship and the oppressors of humans, I think you will have a lot of fun every single day. And that is what it ought to be—life ought to be an accumulation of those happy days.

This morning—I am roaming around here—I hope you don't mind—just talking—this morning happens to be the anniversary of a day that was the most tense in my life. This morning twelve years ago hundreds of vessels went across the English Channel and toward a destiny that was certainly uncertain at the moment.

Now, even that day had some enjoyment, because we were certain that that great force was bound together by a common belief in the dignity and the freedom of men. It was doing its job to eliminate tyranny from the earth, and in the main, and in spite of all of the plays that you see written about the horrors of war, they went willingly because they believed.

Now I think in a lesser sense, what we are talking about in a political party is: how much do we believe? And I think in that is the success or the failure of that party. How much do you believe in it; what it is trying to do; indeed, how much do we believe it is your duty to come and help make the policies that that party follows. You people are showing that you are doing these things.

All of this is merely my effort to say how proud I am of you, how much I believe in you, how much I hope we get to associate together in every possible way. I would like to spend an afternoon at one of your meetings.

But to each of you, good luck. Thanks for coming and let's remember: Let's help the Boy Scouts get out the vote. What do you say?

NOTE: The President spoke to a group selected to attend the second leadership training school, held in Washington under the auspices of the Republican National Committee,

and jointly sponsored by the Young Republican Federation and the District of Columbia Young Republicans.

123 ¶ Special Message to the Congress
Concerning Trade Agreement Actions.

June 7, 1956

To the Congress of the United States:

This message is submitted pursuant to the provisions of Section 4 of the Trade Agreements Extension Act of 1951, as amended.

Under the authority of the trade agreements legislation, the United States entered into a trade agreement at Geneva, Switzerland on May 23, 1956 with other contracting parties to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade. A copy of that agreement is submitted herewith. The United States received tariff concessions from other countries on various products exported by the United States in return for tariff concessions by the United States.

On two products the United States by separate action negotiated increases in the existing rates of duty. In one case, involving certain fur-felt hat bodies, a court decision had in effect nullified tariff increases which were proclaimed a few years ago as the result of an escape clause investigation. In its peril point investigation on these hat bodies, the Tariff Commission found that the lower rates resulting from the court decision should be increased. The negotiated increases raise the rates of duty to the peril points found by the Tariff Commission, and in general restore the rates which had been applicable under the escape clause proclamation prior to the court decision. In the other case, involving liquid sugar, there had been no peril point finding that an increase was necessary; the objective was to equalize the rates applicable to dry and liquid sugar.

In the other two cases—certain tungsten alloys and violins and violas—in which the Tariff Commission reported that increases in existing rates of duty were required, it was found that

the advantages of negotiating the increases would have been outweighed by attendant disadvantages which made it undesirable to accomplish the increases by this means. Also, in the case of tungsten alloys, only one group was listed for negotiation while others, including ferro-tungsten, the most important in terms of imports, was not listed. Increasing the duty on the listed alloys would thus have unduly complicated our tariff structure without adequate economic justification. For these reasons, increased rates on tungsten alloys and violins and violas were not included in the trade agreement. These considerations would not be a bar to applications by domestic producers of these products for escape clause action under the provisions of Section 7 of the Trade Agreements Extension Act of 1951.

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

NOTE: Entitled "General Agreement on Tariff and Trade, Sixth Protocol of Supplementary Concessions, May 23, 1956," the trade agreement transmitted with this message is published in the Treaties and Other Interna-

tional Acts Series (TIAS 3591; Government Printing Office, 1956) and in the United States Treaties and Other International Agreements (7 U. S. T. 1083).

124 ¶ Veto of Bill Making Payment to Crow Indian Tribe. *June 8, 1956*

To the United States Senate:

I return herewith, without my approval, S. J. Res. 135, "For payment to Crow Indian Tribe for right-of-way for Yellowtail Dam and Reservoir, Hardin unit, Missouri River Basin project, Montana-Wyoming."

The joint resolution would pay the Crow Indian Tribe, Montana, \$5,000,000 as "just compensation" for certain tribal lands required for the construction, operation, and maintenance of the Yellowtail Dam and Reservoir. The area of the land com-

prises 5,677.94 acres and such additional land as the Secretary of the Interior determines to be required for the construction of minimum basic recreation facilities for the accommodation of the public, which it is understood will increase the total area to somewhat more than 6,000 acres.

In essence, this resolution culminates a decade of negotiation and disagreement between the Department of the Interior and the Crow Indians with respect to the amount of compensation to be paid to the Tribe for lands required for the Yellowtail Dam and Reservoir, for which the initial construction appropriation was made in the fiscal year 1956 and for which an additional \$10,850,000 was included in the budget for the fiscal year 1957.

The standard of payment for land acquired by the Government is "just compensation," or "fair market value." However, I recognize that, as a matter of policy, the Federal Government has made awards in excess of "just compensation" in other cases involving Indian lands. If the Congress determines that it wishes to provide for an extra payment in this case, it should not be done under the claim that it is "just compensation." The amount, the method for computing it, and the equitable justification for it, should be clearly established on acceptable premises. Neither the resolution nor the legislative history does this.

According to my information, the acquisition by the United States of the land contemplated will not interfere with the tribal life, except as to a small area used for grazing, and will not displace any of the members of the tribe since the area is not inhabited and consists almost wholly of inaccessible land, largely of bare, precipitous canyon walls. Thus, the only justification for an additional sum over and above "just compensation" arises from the value of the land as a power site. General principles of constitutional law exclude power site values in determining "just compensation" as the Supreme Court recently reiterated in *United States v. Twin City Power Co.*, January 23, 1956.

A statutory settlement of this kind of controversy might be acceptable if soundly and equitably premised and if it reflected a substantial measure of agreement between parties to the dispute. I regret that the extravagant nature of the award contemplated by S. J. Res. 135 requires this action which may cause some additional delay in proceeding with the construction of the Yellowtail unit. It is my hope that the Congress can approve a statutory settlement which will permit expeditious action to proceed with the construction of this much-needed project.

For these reasons, I have withheld my approval from this measure.

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

125 ¶ Message to President Heuss of Germany
on the Anniversary of the Demonstration for
Freedom in the Soviet Zone. *June 17, 1956*

Dear Mr. President:

On this day which commemorates the spontaneous demand made three years ago for the freedom of the seventeen million German people of the Soviet Zone, I wish to reaffirm the steadfast conviction of my country that the unjust division of Germany will surely come to an end. The Government and people of the United States are deeply dedicated to the causes of liberty and peace. We know that so long as unity in freedom is withheld from the German people by those who seek to impose an alien and totalitarian system on a part of your nation there can be no permanent security in Europe. We know also that these views are shared by our partners in the North Atlantic Treaty.

The ending of the division of Germany is essential to the development of friendly and cooperative relations between the Western nations and the Soviet Union. The way is open insofar as the United States Government is concerned for the Soviet Govern-

ment to prove that its professed interest in developing such relations is genuine. I am convinced that the Soviet Union will come to recognize that it is in its own interest to negotiate a settlement which respects the right to freedom of the German people and the interests of both East and West, and will join with us in finding a solution to the German problem.

This day you celebrate is I know a day of dedication. I send you my greetings and together with my fellow Americans I look forward to the time when all Germany will at last be unified and free.

Sincerely,

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

NOTE: On June 14, 1956, Chancellor Adenauer visited the President at Walter Reed Hospital, accompanied by Secretary Dulles. In their remarks, released by the White House, both expressed pleasure over the President's excellent progress following his operation. Secretary Dulles added, "We had a very good talk . . . The President . . . expressed his very great hope that action could be taken

which would promote the liberation of the 17 million Germans that are now held under Soviet Communist rule and their re-unification with Germany. That was the substantive point which the President himself brought up and which was the principal topic of conversation outside of the expressions of sentiments as between the two men and the two countries."

126 ¶ Veto of Bill for the Relief of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas V. Compton. *June 18, 1956*

To the House of Representatives:

I return herewith, without my approval, H. R. 1866, a bill "For the relief of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas V. Compton."

The purpose of this bill is to provide to Mr. and Mrs. Compton the payment of \$6,000 as compensation for loss of business and decline in the market value of their business by reason of the relocation of United States Highway 15 at Clarksville, Virginia.

The relocation of the highway was accomplished incidental to the development and construction of the John H. Kerr Dam and Reservoir project on the Roanoke River. Although the portion of United States Highway No. 15 adjacent to the Compton property has not been physically altered and is usable and accessible from the relocated highway, the severance of the highway by flooding of the reservoir several miles distant has resulted in a diversion of potential traffic and a decline in the use of the roadway. As a consequence there has been some diminution in value of commercial properties adjacent to that portion of the unused highway.

The Compton property consists of 4.7 acres of land with a service station, grocery store, and trailer parking lot. The decrease in traffic led to the loss of business which in turn resulted in an undetermined diminution in the value of the property for commercial use. There is no basis in law for compensating the Comptons and others similarly situated whose property is not taken in whole or in part for public purposes.

Decline as well as increase in property values goes on as an everyday matter, attributable to many factors commonly recognized by property owners. Relocation of highways and streets is necessitated by sundry causes and is one of such factors. The relocation of the segment of highway here involved results from a public work performed by the Federal Government, but this could as well be a claim arising through action of a state, county, municipality or township, or a sewer or drainage district. In all such cases, compensation is paid for property taken but not for consequential damage to property not taken, such as decline in the value of property due to a change effected in the neighborhood.

To make payments of the kind provided by this bill would, in essence, make the Government the guarantor of the stability of property or business values. This can best be illustrated by instances in which highway relocation projects have resulted not only in the by-passing of individual properties but by the by-passing of entire towns. It becomes quite evident in such situa-

tions that the Government cannot indemnify every businessman or property owner in such towns against loss by reason of changes of community pattern. It would be no more reasonable to expect the Government to do so than it would be to expect those who benefit from such changes to make voluntary payments to the Government in proportion to their gains.

For these reasons, I have withheld my approval from this measure.

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

127 ¶ Statement by the President Upon Signing
the Library Services Bill. *June 19, 1956*

THE LIBRARY SERVICES BILL, which I have today signed into law, represents an effort to stimulate the States and local communities to increase library services available to rural Americans. It shows promise of leading to a significant enrichment of the lives of millions of Americans, which, I am confident, will be continued by the States when this limited Federal program comes to an end.

NOTE: As enacted, the Library Services Bill (H. R. 2840) is Public Law 597, 84th Congress (70 Stat. 293).

128 ¶ Message to the President's Conference on
the Fitness of American Youth. *June 19, 1956*

To the President's Conference on the Fitness of American Youth:

The Vice President has given me a brief report on your deliberations in the Conference.

I congratulate you on your thoroughness in analyzing youth-fitness problems and the frank and objective way in which you expressed your viewpoints on a most important subject.

In our concern for political, economic, social, cultural and other problems affecting the national and international scene, we tend to overlook one important fundamental which you emphasized:

That national policies will be no more than words if our people are not healthy of body, as well as of mind, putting dynamism and leadership into the carrying out of major decisions. Our young people must be physically as well as mentally and spiritually prepared for American citizenship.

Although the policies of government are concerned predominantly with the problems and aspects of mature citizenry, much is being done today in this kind of youth preparation by Federal, State, community and private organizations.

I believe you and I share the feeling that more and better coordinated attention should be given to this most precious asset—our youth—within the Federal Government. By this I do not mean that we should have an over-riding Federal program. The fitness of our young people is essentially a home and local community problem.

The task of the Federal Government is to assist the educators and the many fine organizations, now dealing with the problem, that they may improve and advance projects which are already underway. Therefore, I will soon issue an Executive Order which will establish a President's Council on Youth Fitness. I will ask members of my Cabinet who head departments having activities in this area to serve on this Council. Thereby, we can be assured that top level attention will be directed constantly to this most important field, and the activities of some 35 Federal agencies will be better coordinated.

Your deliberations also reveal a need for arousing in the American people a new awareness of the importance of physical and recreational activity that our young people may achieve a proper balance of physical, mental, emotional and spiritual strength.

Therefore, I will soon establish a President's Citizens Advisory Committee on the Fitness of American Youth composed of key

citizens from various walks of life. Their primary assignment will be to examine and explore the facts, and, thereafter, to alert America on what can and should be done to reach the much-desired goal of a happier, healthier, and more totally fit youth in America.

To each of you who has taken the time and trouble to come to Annapolis for the purpose of exploring the aspects of this all-important question of total fitness, I express my sincere appreciation and my personal best wishes.

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

NOTE: The President's message was read by the Vice President at the Conference held at the United States Naval Academy, Annapolis, Md.

The President's Council on Youth Fitness and the President's Citizens

Advisory Committee on the Fitness of American Youth were established by Executive Order 10673 of July 16, 1956 (21 F. R. 5341; 3 CFR, 1956 Supp.).

129 ¶ Exchange of Messages Between the
President and Chancellor Adenauer of Germany.
June 22, 1956

His Excellency

Chancellor Konrad Adenauer

The Federal Republic of Germany

I am deeply grateful for your kind message from Milwaukee and I reciprocate most cordially your expression of good wishes. It was indeed a pleasure for me to have a chance to talk with you during your stay in Washington. I share your viewpoint regarding the community of interests and ideas which exists between our respective Governments and peoples, and I know that your visit here has contributed materially to the further strength-

ening of the bonds of friendship between our two countries. Mrs. Eisenhower joins me in sending you warm regards.

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

NOTE: Chancellor Adenauer's message follows:

His Excellency

Dwight D. Eisenhower

President of the United States

In this moment of departing from the United States, my thoughts and all my best wishes are with you, dear Mr. President. I am happy in the assurance that your recovery is making rapid progress. The talks which I have had with you and Secretary of

State Dulles have enhanced my consciousness of the profound fundamental community of our views and opinions. The other fruitful opportunities for exchanging ideas with key figures have shown me that this community has a broad and secure foundation in the public mind. Let me thank you sincerely also on behalf of those with me for the hospitable and memorable days.

Yours very devoted.

KONRAD ADENAUER

130 ¶ Exchange of Messages Between the President and Prime Minister Nehru of India Concerning the Postponement of His Visit. *June 25, 1956*

[Released June 25, 1956. Dated June 24, 1956]

My dear Mr. Prime Minister:

I have just received and read your gracious message. I have been eagerly looking forward to a visit from you and the opportunity it would give of personal talks between us. While my convalescence proceeds according to schedule and I may take a brief trip to Panama toward the end of July, I cannot be entirely free of doubt as to whether my recuperation will be far enough advanced by July 7th to have the kind of talks which we both had in mind. I know that you would not want to come here

merely for a round of official ceremonies. For your visit to be worth your while there should be assurance that we could have frank and perhaps even somewhat protracted talks, such as we have promised ourselves. That might well be possible for me by July 7th, but I cannot now be certain of this, and I know that you yourself cannot let the decision wait until the last moment.

Under all the circumstances, I am inclined, with truly deep regret, to adopt your considerate suggestion that your visit to the United States be postponed until there can be complete assurance that it would have the character which we both had in mind. I hope that the delay will not be for long and that you will, at your convenience, suggest another date. This I assure you is meant as an urgent invitation.

Again thanking you for your good wishes and for your kindly consideration, I am, with high personal esteem,

Sincerely,

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

NOTE: The message from the Prime Minister of India follows:

My dear Mr. President:

I have been much gratified to learn of the continuing progress of your recovery from your recent illness, but feel that the programme of our personal talks should not impose an additional strain on you during your convalescence. I am most anxious that this should be avoided, and suggest therefore for your consideration that my visit to the United

States might be postponed. I had been looking forward greatly to the opportunity of personal talks with you, but I think it still more important that no undue strain should be placed upon you in the coming weeks which might in any way retard your progress to full recovery. I send my warm personal regards and best wishes for your speedy and complete restoration to normal health.

JAWAHARLAL NEHRU

These messages were released at Walter Reed Army Hospital.

131 ¶ Letter to the President of the Senate and to
the Speaker of the House of Representatives
Proposing Advisory Commission on Presidential
Office Space. *June 27, 1956*

Dear Mr. —————:

I am submitting herewith for consideration of the Congress a draft bill "To provide for the establishment of a President's Advisory Commission on Presidential Office Space." The purpose of this Commission will be to study the problem of providing more adequate office space for the White House Office and the other agencies of the Executive Office of the President and report to me appropriate findings and recommendations.

I have been concerned for some time over the lack of adequate office facilities for the White House staff and the other agencies of the Executive Office of the President. Studies have been made to alleviate current overcrowding in the White House offices and to provide a basis for a more permanent solution to the problem. It seems to me, however, that our consideration of this important problem and the development of appropriate action toward its solution would benefit greatly from an advisory group composed of seven members as follows: two Senators appointed by the President of the Senate; two Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives; and three persons appointed by the President from the executive branch or from private life.

This Commission will, in effect, complement the work of the earlier Commission for the Renovation of the Executive Mansion which was concerned with the reconstruction of the White House itself (Public Law 40, 81st Congress, First Session). The proposed Commission would be concerned with the development of recommendations for suitable space and location of the Presidential offices.

Because the problem is so acute and its solution will require a substantial amount of time, I strongly urge that this proposed legislation be acted upon before the close of the present session of Congress.

Sincerely,

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

NOTE: This is the text of identical letters addressed to the Honorable Richard M. Nixon, President of the Senate, and the Honorable Sam Rayburn, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

The bill providing for the President's Advisory Commission on Presidential Office Space (S. 4228), as enacted on August 3, 1956, is Public Law 954, 84th Congress (70 Stat. 979).

132 ¶ Statement by the President Approving New Program for Fund-Raising Within the Federal Establishment. *June 27, 1956*

WE WHO WORK in the government want to assume our full citizens' share of voluntary support of the many worthwhile private health and welfare organizations.

True voluntary giving is based on the personal desire of an individual to make a private donation to a specific agency for a purpose with which he is familiar and which he wants to support.

The new program will make available to everyone in the government the opportunity to give his full measure of support to these efforts.

NOTE: The President's statement is the foreword to "Fund-Raising Within the Federal Establishment, Approved Policy and Program" developed with Cabinet concurrence and issued by the Office of the President's Adviser on Personnel Management. The statement was also

released as part of a White House announcement of the new program.

The program calls for not more than three solicitation periods each year—only one in communities with a united fund serving all recognized agencies. Full opportunity would be provided for employees to learn

about the services and needs of the fund-raising agencies. In order to ensure the principle of voluntary giving, each contributor would have the right to give selectively and to keep his gift confidential.

133 ¶ Letter to Dan Thornton on His Appointment as Head of the Agricultural Division of the Republican National Committee.

June 29, 1956

[Released June 29, 1956. Dated June 28, 1956]

Dear Dan:

I am indeed delighted to learn that you have accepted the highly important assignment of heading the Agricultural Division of the Republican National Committee.

The situation of American farmers has been one of the foremost interests of this Administration, and you well know the unbounded attention and efforts that we have devoted to the establishment of farm programs of lasting effectiveness.

With your firsthand knowledge of agricultural conditions and of Administration accomplishments in this field, you have in your new assignment a rich opportunity to carry forward this significant work.

With warm personal regard,

Sincerely,

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

134 ¶ Veto of Bill for the Relief of the Estate of
Susie Lee Spencer. July 2, 1956

To the United States Senate:

I return herewith without my approval S. 2152, "For the relief of the estate of Susie Lee Spencer."

The enrolled bill would direct the Secretary of the Treasury to pay \$7,500 to the estate of Mrs. Spencer in full settlement of all claims against the United States for her death, sustained in an accident at the Norfolk Navy Yard on December 11, 1943.

Mrs. Spencer was employed by the Navy Department as a civilian truckdriver at the Norfolk Navy Yard, Norfolk, Virginia. On December 11, 1943, she was assigned to deliver a truckload of material to Building 384 at the navy yard. She approached her destination at approximately 1:30 a. m. on that date and in order to obtain assistance in unloading the truck she had to locate the supervisor of the warehouse crew. She and her helper were driving slowly through the area when they saw a man they thought was the person they were seeking and Mrs. Spencer stopped her truck. At this point the vehicle was directly across the spur line of the railroad system of the Norfolk Navy Yard.

Simultaneously, a locomotive of the shipyard assigned to remove cars from the rear of Building 384 began backing along the spur. There was a sharp curve in the track as the spur cut from the main line alongside the warehouse building. The normal procedure was for a member of the train crew to station himself at the crossing to warn traffic and to signal the train if there were danger of a collision, but it was not followed in this case.

Mrs. Spencer was seriously injured when the train rammed her truck. Despite emergency surgery, she died in the Norfolk Navy Hospital at 9:55 p. m. on December 11, 1943.

The deceased was survived by a husband but by no children or other dependent relatives. Her husband made application for

compensation under the Federal Employees' Compensation Act (39 Stat. 742, as amended) on account of the death of his wife. By the terms of the Act, however, compensation for death, except burial allowance, is payable only to certain classes of dependents. As there was no showing of dependency upon his wife, Mr. Spencer's claim was denied. The specified burial allowance of \$200, however, was paid in this case.

The provisions of S. 2152 are identical to those of H. R. 1026, 81st Congress, and S. 1045, 82d Congress, which were returned to the Congress without approval.

I am compelled to withhold my approval of this measure.

Although I can appreciate the motives of equity and fairness which prompted Congress to seek to make amends for the negligence of a Government employee by private bill, I believe that sympathy and equity must be subordinated to the overriding considerations of sound public policy and equality before the law. S. 2152 is inconsistent with the principles of dependency requirements and the exclusive remedy provisions of the Federal Employees' Compensation Act. When Congress passed the 1949 amendments to the Act, those provisions of the Act which limit the right of a surviving husband to compensation were reaffirmed. This general policy should not now be weakened by singling out a particular individual for special treatment not accorded to others similarly situated.

If Congress is of the view that there are sound and justifiable reasons for departing from the policy of this Act, to permit payment of death compensation to a nondependent husband of a Federal employee, it should do so through general legislation rather than by making individual exceptions through the enactment of private relief measures which are discriminatory against the general class of persons subject to the Federal Employees' Compensation Act.

In this connection, I have been informed that, on the average, 200 claims for death compensation are filed each year under the Federal Employees' Compensation Act. Of these, some 15 per

cent are denied on grounds of nondependency. In my judgment, it would be inequitable in the face of such statistics to approve a bill for a single beneficiary.

In disapproving this bill, I am aware that the Congress has treated it as action upon a petition for redress of grievance rather than as an exception to the Federal Employees' Compensation Act. There are many circumstances in which this approach is wise. It has resulted, in words of the Judiciary Committee, in passage by the Congress of "private bills almost without number in recognition of meritorious claims". It seems to me, however, that where the Congress has enacted general legislation of broad applicability, consideration should first be given to amendment of that legislation before resorting to the private bill procedure. A private bill frequently establishes a precedent that makes consideration of amendment of general law increasingly difficult with each similar enactment.

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

135 ¶ Veto of Bill Concerning Claim of William E. Stone. *July 2, 1956*

To the United States Senate:

I return herewith, without my approval, S. 2582, a bill "To confer jurisdiction upon the Court of Claims to hear, determine, and render judgment upon the claim of William E. Stone for disability retirement as a Reserve officer or Army of the United States officer under the provisions of the Act of April 3, 1939, as amended."

The enrolled bill would confer jurisdiction on the Court of Claims, notwithstanding any limitation on its jurisdiction, to adjudicate the claim of Captain William E. Stone arising out of the failure of the then War Department to retire him for physical disability.

The beneficiary of this measure sustained injuries to his neck and shoulders when he parachuted over enemy territory in 1944. Following this jump, he was held as a prisoner of war by the Germans until his liberation in 1945. He was subsequently examined in the same year, by three medical officers who found no evidence of any incapacitating disability. The beneficiary was relieved from active duty for reasons other than physical disability in 1946, after affirmatively indicating he had suffered no service-incurred injuries.

During a period of Reserve training duty in 1951, the beneficiary was examined by the Air Force and found physically fit to perform flying duty. However, in the following year, he applied for and was awarded service-connected disability compensation by the Veterans' Administration, which currently considers him to be 40 percent disabled.

Upon review of his case in 1953, the Office of the Surgeon General of the Air Force determined that the beneficiary had not been permanently incapacitated for the performance of active duty at the time he was relieved from such duty in 1946. This decision was twice reviewed, in 1954 and in 1955, by the Air Force Board for the Correction of Military Records acting under statutory authority empowering it to amend military records when such action is necessary in order "to correct an error or to remove an injustice." Acting under this broad standard, the Board upheld, with the approval of the Secretary of the Air Force, the prior decision of the Surgeon General's Office. The present measure would permit review of these administrative decisions by the Court of Claims.

To avoid confusion, there is one thing which I think should be made clear at the outset. This is the difference between the basis for awarding disability retirement pay administered by the military departments and that for awarding disability compensation administered by the Veterans' Administration. The basis for the former is whether or not the individual sustained an injury or disease in the service which permanently incapacitated him for

the performance of active duty at the time he was relieved from such duty. Awards of disability compensation, however, are based on findings that the former serviceman has a compensable service-connected condition. As a result of this difference, it is obvious that many individuals, particularly those with latent injuries such as the beneficiary sustained, will be able to qualify for disability compensation but cannot qualify for the receipt of disability retirement pay.

Traditionally, eligibility for retirement on account of physical disability has been determined by the military service in accordance with general provisions of law. More recently, appellate review of these decisions has been provided within the Executive Branch by means of statutory boards such as the several Boards for the Correction of Military and Naval Records established by the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946, as amended.

On at least two occasions within the past year, the Court of Claims has been petitioned to award disability retirement pay to individuals who had been found not entitled to such pay by the Secretary of the military service concerned. In denying these petitions, the Court has stated, in effect, that under the statutory procedures for determining and reviewing entitlement to retirement, it has jurisdiction only in cases where it can be shown that the cognizant Military Secretary has acted arbitrarily, capriciously, or contrary to law.

I believe that this rule which the Court of Claims adopted is a sound one. It conforms to an important principle underlying judicial review of administrative decisions, namely, that the courts will not substitute their judgment for that of the experienced officials who have been given adjudicative responsibility by law. For this reason and since there is no evidence in this case that the Secretary of the Air Force acted arbitrarily, capriciously, or contrary to law, I can see no justification for special legislation which would require the Court of Claims to grant the beneficiary a *de novo* hearing.

Approval of this bill would discriminate against the many hundreds of individuals who have had their claims for disability retirement denied without benefit of judicial review. It would also establish an undesirable precedent leading to other exceptions to the orderly procedure which is now provided for under general law and which currently governs the hundreds of similar cases that are adjudicated each year.

Accordingly, I am compelled to withhold my approval from S. 2582.

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

136 ¶ Statement by the President Upon Signing
Bill Making Appropriations for Certain Federal
Agencies, Including the Civil Functions of the
Corps of Engineers. *July 2, 1956*

I HAVE TODAY approved H. R. 11319, "Making appropriations for the Tennessee Valley Authority, certain agencies of the Department of the Interior, and civil functions administered by the Department of the Army, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1957, and for other purposes." However, I am concerned about the large increase in the number of new construction starts for the Corps of Engineers which the Congress has provided for in this bill, and the serious effect that these additions will have on the future financial commitments of the Federal Government. This is the second consecutive year that the Congress has taken this kind of action.

I firmly believe that the Federal Government, in cooperation with the States and local interests, must proceed with needed water resources projects if we are to conserve and wisely use these valuable resources; but we must proceed in an orderly fashion with due regard for other essential services and for our national defense. To achieve a proper balance between water resource

development and other Federal programs some system of priorities must be established. My budget proposals were directed to this objective as well as the need for a sound overall budgetary and fiscal policy not only for the fiscal year 1957 but also for the years ahead.

Under these policies, it was possible to recommend a forward looking program of water resource development. However, the action of the Congress in adding 52 unbudgeted projects for the Corps of Engineers, involving direct future commitments in excess of three-quarters of a billion dollars jeopardizes the balance between future commitments for water resource development and other Federal programs.

Three of these unbudgeted projects are major structures in the authorized Arkansas River basin comprehensive navigation development. By providing for starting these projects, the Congress has committed the United States to eventual appropriations totaling another three-quarters of a billion dollars to complete other features of this development, which, although authorized, have not yet been scheduled for construction. In my Budget Message in January, I recommended deferral of this development and pointed out that the major benefits of the structures, for which the Congress has now provided funds, will not be realized until the entire navigation development is completed.

In making this statement, I want to make it clear that I have always placed among my most important objectives, the wise conservation, development and use of the Nation's water resources. I shall continue to do so. At the same time, I shall also continue to submit my budget recommendations to the Congress in an effort to maintain the finances of the Federal Government on a sound basis.

NOTE: As enacted, H. R. 11319 is This statement was released at
Public Law 641, 84th Congress (70 Gettysburg, Pa.
Stat. 474).

137 ¶ Statement by the President Upon Signing
the Water Pollution Act Amendments of 1956.

July 9, 1956

I HAVE TODAY approved S. 890, the Water Pollution Control Act Amendments of 1956.

The bill authorizes urgently needed measures for the control and abatement of pollution, a serious and growing problem in the field of water resources and conservation.

The first Federal Water Pollution Control Act was enacted by the 80th Congress in 1948. That law has proved its great value during the past eight years, and last year I recommended that it be made permanent. I also recommended that it be broadened and strengthened in several respects—particularly with respect to research, State program grants, and Federal enforcement on interstate streams. I am pleased that the bill embodies each of these features. These provisions of the law will help to further our national attack on water pollution in a manner that properly preserves the areas of Federal, State, and local responsibility.

In one respect the bill goes beyond the recommendations of the Administration by providing for Federal grants to localities to pay part of the cost of constructing municipal sewage treatment works. In doing so, however, it directs the Surgeon General of the Public Health Service, in every case, among other factors to give consideration to the propriety of Federal aid. I have requested the Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare and the Surgeon General to prepare criteria by which the propriety of Federal aid will be determined.

Meanwhile, I urge that no community with sufficient resources to construct a needed sewage treatment project without Federal aid, postpone that construction simply because of the prospect of a possible Federal grant. It should be clearly understood that Federal aid will not be available to all communities and, with re-

spect to any one project, the Federal funds are limited in amount under the provisions of the bill.

NOTE: As enacted, S. 890 is Public Law 660, 84th Congress (70 Stat. 498). This statement was released at Gettysburg, Pa.

138 ¶ Memorandum on the United Givers Fund Campaign in the National Capital Area.

July 9, 1956

Memorandum for the Heads of Executive Departments and Agencies:

Voluntary health, welfare and character-building services greatly contribute to a healthy, strong and safe community for ourselves and our children. Next Fall, in the National Capital Area, the "United Givers Fund" campaign will unite for the first time the more than one hundred Red Feather agencies of the six local Community Chests, all of the American National Red Cross local chapters, the USO-USO Camp Shows and certain national health agencies. This is the initial campaign of the United Givers Fund. It is also the first of two campaigns in the Greater Washington Metropolitan Area to be conducted in Federal offices under the new approved Federal service fund-raising policy. I should like all Federal employees to join with me in making this community fund-raising effort an outstanding success.

I appoint the Honorable James P. Mitchell, Secretary of Labor, to act as Chairman of the 1956 Government Unit of the United Givers Fund in this first appeal under the new Federal program.

Every Government official, employee and all military personnel on duty in the National Capital Area will be given the opportunity to contribute voluntarily to the 1956 United Givers Fund.

I urge that everyone give the Chairman his full measure of support in this worthy effort.

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

NOTE: This memorandum was released at Gettysburg, Pa.

139 ¶ Letter to Clarence B. Randall on His
Appointment as Special Assistant to the President
for Foreign Economic Policy. *July 10, 1956*

Dear Mr. Randall:

I am delighted that you have agreed to serve as Special Assistant to the President in the area of foreign economic policy and that you will be taking up the work of your able predecessor in assisting and advising me in the orderly development of foreign economic policy and programs. I shall count on you to assure the effective coordination of foreign economic matters of concern to the several departments and agencies of the Executive Branch, and to effect a further simplification of the present administrative and coordinating structure in this field.

In this capacity you will assume the chairmanship of the Council on Foreign Economic Policy, whose membership consists of the Secretaries of State, Treasury, Agriculture, and Commerce, and the Director of the International Cooperation Administration, or their principal deputies, also my Administrative Assistant for Economic Affairs, my Special Assistant for National Security Affairs, and a member of my Council of Economic Advisers. The heads of other departments and agencies should continue to be invited by the chairman to participate in meetings of the Council when matters of direct concern to them are under consideration.

As a part of this mission, I shall look to you and your associates for the development of foreign economic policies and programs

designed to meet the special problems created by Communist economic activities in underdeveloped areas of the free world.

So that you may be fully advised on the foreign activities and problems of the Government, you are invited to attend pertinent meetings of the Cabinet and the National Security Council. I shall expect you to establish appropriate working relations with the National Security Council, the National Advisory Council on International Monetary and Financial Problems, and other relevant groups as necessary to assure that the formulation of foreign economic policy is properly integrated with the formulation of national security policy, international financial policy, and domestic economic policy.

You may provide yourself with such staff as is necessary to assist you in connection with these duties. In addition, you may need to make provision from time to time for a limited number of special task forces for the review of specific foreign economic matters.

Needless to say, I am very glad that you are continuing your service in the field of foreign economic policy where you have already made such a notable contribution. In the critical but hopeful years ahead we must continue to act constructively in this vital field in order that the cause of a just peace may be substantially advanced.

With warm regard,

Sincerely,

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

NOTE: This letter was released at Gettysburg, Pa.

140 ¶ Message to the King of Greece Conveying Sympathy Following an Earthquake Disaster.

July 11, 1956

His Majesty

Paul I

King of the Hellenes

I am saddened to learn that Greece has just suffered an earthquake disaster and I wish to convey the heartfelt sympathy of the American people to you and to the people of the Islands.

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

NOTE: This message was released at Gettysburg, Pa.

141 ¶ Veto of Bill Authorizing Certain Construction at Military Installations.

July 16, 1956

To the House of Representatives:

I return herewith, without my approval, H. R. 9893, "To authorize certain construction at military installations, and for other purposes."

The bill authorizes the Secretaries of the Army, Navy, and Air Force to establish or develop military installations and facilities by acquiring, constructing, converting, rehabilitating, or installing permanent or temporary public works and family housing necessary for the operation of the Armed Services.

While I recognize the manifest importance of this measure to national defense, I cannot approve it so long as it contains certain provisions found in sections 301 and 419.

Section 301 provides that none of the authorization contained in that section relating to the Talos missile "shall be effective until

the Secretary of Defense shall have come into agreement with the Armed Services Committees of the Senate and of the House of Representatives with respect to its utilization.” If the Committees should fail or decline to agree to the plans prepared by the Secretary of Defense, the practical effect of this provision would be to lodge in the Committees the authority to nullify Congressional authorization. The provision would also compel the Secretary of Defense, an executive official, to share with two Committees of the Congress the responsibility for the carrying out of the Talos missile authorization. This procedure would destroy the clear lines of responsibility which the Constitution provides.

Section 419 provides that: “Notwithstanding any other provisions of this Act or any other law, no contract shall be entered into by the United States for the construction or acquisition of family housing units by or for the use of the Department of Defense unless the Department of Defense, in each instance, has come into agreement with the Armed Services Committees of the Senate and House of Representatives.” While the Congress may enact legislation governing the making of Government contracts, it may not constitutionally delegate to its Members or Committees the power to make such contracts, either directly or by giving them the authority to approve or disapprove a contract which an executive officer proposes to make.

Two years ago I returned, without my approval, a bill, H. R. 7512, 83d Congress, containing similar provisions. At that time I stated that such provisions violate the fundamental constitutional principle of separation of powers prescribed in Articles I and II of the Constitution, which place the legislative power in the Congress and the executive power in the Executive Branch.

Once again, I must object to such a serious departure from the separation of powers as provided by the Constitution. Any such departure from constitutional procedures must be avoided. I am persuaded that the true purpose of the Congress in the enactment of both of these provisions was to exercise a close and

full legislative oversight of important programs of the Department of Defense. This purpose can be properly attained by requiring timely reports from the Executive. Such reports would provide the Congress with the basis for any further legislative action it may find to be necessary.

Accordingly, I am returning H. R. 9893, with my urgent recommendation that it be reenacted without the objectionable provisions.

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

142 ¶ Letter to Val Peterson, Administrator of Civil Defense, on the Occasion of Operation Alert 1956. *July 17, 1956*

Dear Governor Peterson:

On July 20 many thousands of our citizens will take part in the fourth nationwide exercise to improve our ability to survive enemy attack. I have often heard you speak in enthusiastic terms of the men and women directly concerned with these undertakings, and I have personally felt their dedication to their tasks. I hope you will convey to all civil defense workers my personal appreciation of their efforts to strengthen our country's security.

Our unchanging national goal is a peaceful world community in which the vast human and material resources now being invested in offensive and defensive preparations can be turned to the good of mankind. But the lessons so harshly learned during the past few decades make it clear that, until a stable peace prevails in the world, we must stay strong and vigilant. Thus peace and preparedness are joined. Our civil defense program and its activities such as Operation Alert 1956 are essential to both. An effective civil defense is an important deterrent against at-

tack on our country and thus helps preserve peace. In the event of an attack upon us, civil defense at once becomes one of our immediate reactions imperatively required for our nation's survival.

The advances made in your three years as Federal Civil Defense Administrator delineate some of the major routes we have been following in civil defense. Planning for urban evacuation is in progress. The growing stockpile of medical supplies is being relocated as required by new weapons. Survival studies of specific target areas will provide an accurate measure of the advance warning time required in each area to permit the saving of lives by evacuation. Systematized attack warning channels and procedures are better adjusting the civilian response to military alert warnings. Continental defense is being daily strengthened as the Distant Early Warning System comes rapidly into operation.

This progress is encouraging. But as we look back upon the rapid advance in aircraft and in nuclear weapons and forward to missiles capable of being catapulted thousands of miles, it is clear that the destructive capabilities of potential enemies have been outpacing our non-military defensive measures since the Federal Civil Defense Act was passed six years ago. It is equally clear that no matter how crushing a blow we can strike in retaliation for an attack upon us, to permit our great centers of population and industry to lay exposed to the weapons of modern war is to invite both an attack and national catastrophe.

Therefore, our whole civil defense effort needs both strengthening and modernizing. This need arises not from any increase in international tensions but, rather, from the recent spectacular developments in weapons and methods of delivery.

The threat we face affords us only three basic alternatives. One extreme would be to hold our people subject to a rigid discipline, on the premise that a regimented citizenry would be better able to survive a nuclear attack. But this approach, continued, would destroy the America we are determined to preserve. The

opposite extreme would be to accept the ultimate annihilation of all persons in urban target areas as unavoidable or too costly to prevent, and by this unwarranted decision remove the burdens and cares of a peacetime civil defense program. Of course, we reject both extremes. There is another way we must follow.

We must continue to avoid Federal preemption of all civil defense programs which are so dependent upon widespread citizen participation. But it is now evident that the exigencies of the present threat require vesting in the Federal Government a larger responsibility in our national plan of civil defense.

Instructions already given you to prepare plans for a nationwide monitoring and predicting system for radioactive fall-out are in keeping with this conviction. You also have my request to give all possible priority to the many survival planning projects now under way, and as the results of these projects accumulate, I shall look to you for realistic recommendations regarding relocation, evacuation and shelter protection programs.

In the same vein, the heads of the various Federal departments and agencies were long ago instructed to give maximum support to the civil defense effort. Among the results of that directive is the incorporation by the Secretary of Defense of civil defense considerations in National Guard and other military reserve instruction. He has also ordered disaster plans to be formulated in direct concert with State and local officials, as well as the Federal Civil Defense Administration. I shall expect periodic reports from you on the progress of such Federal agency support, with such recommendations as you may deem essential to its success.

But these efforts will still not meet our needs. The Federal civil defense law was written before the advent of the hydrogen bomb and the recent striking advances in methods of delivering modern weapons. This law must be realistically revised. Plans to meet post-attack situations are, of course, essential, but the Federal Civil Defense Administration needs authority to carry out necessary pre-attack preparations as well. It must be enabled to assure adequate participation in the civil defense program. It must be

empowered to work out logical plans for possible target areas which overlap state and municipal boundaries. It must have an organization capable of discharging these increased responsibilities.

Moreover, the prestige and effectiveness of the Federal Civil Defense Administration must be equal to the heavy responsibility it holds. As a step in this direction, I have, for planning purposes, charged your organization, the Department of Defense and the Office of Defense Mobilization with various basic functions which it is imperative be maintained in the event of attack.

Already you have been invited to attend and participate fully in those National Security Council meetings in which matters relevant to civil defense are discussed.

From now on I request that you also participate in Cabinet meetings to help ensure that the civil defense program is fully integrated into our national planning.

In addition, for some time the President's Advisory Committee on Government Organization has been making a careful analysis of the proper future place of the Federal Civil Defense Administration within the Executive Branch. A subcommittee of the House Committee on Government Operations also has been thoroughly studying this and other civil defense problems. I will earnestly consider the findings of these Committees and suggest appropriate legislation in my annual message to the Congress next January.

At that time I will also urge amendments to remedy the shortcomings in the existing civil defense statute.

I will appreciate having your recommendations and those of the Civil Defense Coordinating Board in respect to both of these problems as soon as the results of Operation Alert 1956 can be evaluated.

As you know, I shall participate in Operation Alert 1956 with my staff, although I shall have to leave shortly after it begins in order to visit Panama. I expect to return on the morning of July 24 and will participate in the exercise until it ends. I know

the whole program will benefit from the experience gained in this exercise by ranking government officials.

One final thought I would like to express. Should an emergency occur, our nation's survival may be dependent upon the way each of us responds to his duty. In an area attacked, survival will initially rest mainly with the individual and the community. Therefore, to ensure civil defense readiness, the Federal Government, despite its increased civil defense role, must remain in partnership with States, cities and towns. Only in this way can we obtain more citizen participation, more vigorous efforts by States, local governments and metropolitan areas, and more readiness by the Congress to support necessary civil defense measures. Civil defense can never become an effective instrument for human survival if it becomes entirely dependent upon Federal action.

I am deeply appreciative of your vigorous attempts to advance this program which has become one of the key elements in our efforts to prevent the outbreak of war. I trust that the additional powers and responsibilities outlined above will enable you to enlarge the important contribution of your organization to the safety of our country.

Sincerely,

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

143 ¶ Message to the Congress Transmitting the
Tenth Annual Report on United States
Participation in the United Nations.

July 19, 1956

To the Congress of the United States:

I transmit herewith, pursuant to the United Nations Participation Act, the tenth annual report, covering the year 1955, on United States participation in the United Nations.

The prime purpose of the United Nations—"to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war"—remains unchanged. This goal as well as those of human rights, justice, and social progress are ardently desired by the American people. I, therefore, found special satisfaction in addressing the United Nations Commemorative Conference in San Francisco in June 1955, which was convened to mark the tenth anniversary of the signing of the Charter.

The record for 1955 shows that the United Nations, now in its second decade, is increasingly vital and effective. I draw your attention to a few of the year's developments which especially command the interest of the United States.

1. First in significance for peace and progress, in the long range view, are the United Nations contributions to the peaceful applications of atomic energy. Having proposed before the General Assembly in 1953 that an international atomic energy agency be created, I have carefully followed developments in this field. The progress made in the past two years is impressive.

Although the Soviet Union's response to the initial proposal for an international agency was negative and disappointing, we and other interested nations pressed on with new proposals.

Important strides in this momentous field were thus made in 1955. In August, pursuant to a United States proposal, scientists from seventy-three states met under United Nations auspices for two weeks in Geneva in an International Technical Conference to explore the promise of the atom. The Conference provided valuable opportunities for the exchange of scientific knowledge for the benefit of mankind between scientists without regard for ideologies.

There was also progress in the creation of the international agency itself. The determination of free nations to advance this program, together with the great prestige of the United Nations, resulted in unanimous approval by the Tenth General Assembly of the prospective creation of the International Atomic Energy

Agency. The Statute of the Agency is now ready for adoption. The Agency itself should be established during the coming year.

This progress in converting the atom to peaceful use illustrates the ability of the United Nations to get results in the face of what might seem insurmountable obstacles.

At the time I originally proposed the development of peaceful uses of atomic energy I had this in mind: That if the world could cooperate and move ahead significantly in this field, this might make it easier to move ahead in the far more difficult field of disarmament. I am still convinced that this is so. When this Agency comes into being the confidence, the cooperation, and the trust which it will engender among nations can bring us significantly closer to the day when honest disarmament can be realized.

Disarmament, and by this I mean the controlled reduction of military forces and of conventional and nuclear weapons, remains one of the most vital unsolved problems facing the world. The Soviet Union and the United States are the two great nuclear powers. Both possess an enormous potential for either the welfare or the destruction of mankind. The responsibility, therefore, lies particularly upon us and the Soviet Union to produce a workable plan for safeguarded disarmament. Other nations look with justified anxiety for signs that this is being done.

Our Government, the first to master atomic energy, was likewise the first to offer to put it under the control of the United Nations. Ten years have elapsed since that time, but our repeated efforts to reach agreement through the United Nations have been unavailing. The basic reason for this is the mutual distrust existing between the Soviet Union and other nations.

2. The dispelling of this paralyzing distrust was my main purpose in proposing at Geneva last July the plan for aerial inspection by the United States and the Soviet Union of each other's military installations. Such a system should make it impossible for either side to make a massive surprise attack on the other. Last December the General Assembly by the overwhelming vote of 56 to 7 asked that this be one of the proposals to receive priority

consideration as a confidence-building first step on the road to arms reduction. The Soviet Union has nevertheless refused, thus far, to accept this offer. But we and our associates should continue, with patient resolve, to seek common ground with the Soviet Union on this or some equally effective program that could lead to safeguarded disarmament, looking for the day when the Soviets will change their view on this topic, as they have done on others in the past.

We shall continue to obey the mandate of the United Nations in this field. We shall continue our search until we have found the answer to this awesome problem. We shall be guided by the knowledge that no nation can live in the true spirit of peace or devote its energies to the pursuit of happiness until the trend toward increasingly destructive armaments is reversed.

3. In 1955 the United Nations made its contribution to the continuance of a world fortunately free from open war. In the strife between the Arab States and Israel, which reflects intense political, economic and cultural tensions, the United Nations succeeded for another year in maintaining the uneasy armistice. Measured against the tragic alternative, this ranks as a substantial accomplishment.

The stabilizing influence that the United Nations has been able to exert upon the Near Eastern situation is one of the best proofs of the sheer necessity of the United Nations. We are in an era of resurgent nationalism, which has very little tolerance for the methods of pacification and arbitration imposed from without that have worked in other eras. In the Near East the United Nations has provided perhaps the only force—essentially a moral force—that can maintain the armistice and work toward a permanent solution. Secretary-General Hammarskjöld's mission undertaken this spring as a result of United States initiative in the Security Council made a substantial contribution to improving a serious and dangerous situation there. It illustrates the ability of the United Nations to develop over a period of time, through

patient testing, workable methods that, when world opinion is mobilized, can deal successfully with such serious problems.

4. One more United Nations achievement of 1955 is especially precious for Americans because it concerns our own flesh and blood. In May and August, the Chinese Communist authorities released from unjust and illegal imprisonment fifteen American fliers, fighting men of the Korean war. They had detained these men in violation of the Korean Armistice. Most of them had been victims of fabricated propaganda charges. Their return to their homes followed Secretary-General Hammarskjöld's trip to Peiping armed with a mandate from the General Assembly. It proved with dramatic force the power of the United Nations to influence events through its impact on world opinion.

5. The end of year 1955 found the United Nations larger by sixteen members, giving it a total membership of seventy-six. For years the Soviet veto had kept many fully qualified states from taking their place in the United Nations. Finally the pressure of world opinion made possible a generally acceptable solution.

As additional countries become qualified for membership, they should be admitted without delay. I am glad to note that the Sudan, which achieved independence late in 1955, has already been recommended for admission by the Security Council. Certainly, the grossly unjust exclusion of Japan by repeated Soviet vetoes should be promptly rectified. The Republic of Korea and Viet-Nam are likewise fully eligible for membership.

The United Nations in its first decade has not seen a single member withdraw from membership. To the contrary, most of those outside the Organization seek to join it. Nothing could more clearly prove its vitality and influence.

I commend to the Congress this report of United States participation in the tenth year of the United Nations. It is a record of substantial evolution in man's efforts to live at peace. It is up to us and the other member states to see that the United Nations serves with increasing effectiveness, within the Charter, its central purpose of maintaining the peace and fostering the well-being of

all peoples. To this end the United Nations and the Specialized Agencies associated with it deserve, and should continue to receive, our honest, intelligent and wholehearted support.

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

NOTE: The tenth annual report on United States participation in the United Nations is published in House Document 455 (84th Cong., 2d sess.).

144 ¶ Cablegram to the Supreme Chief of State of Honduras on the Death of Ambassador Izaguirre.
July 19, 1956

*His Excellency
Senor don Julio Lozano Diaz
Supreme Chief of State
of the Republic of Honduras
Tegucigalpa*

On behalf of the Government and people of the United States, I wish to convey to Your Excellency's Government and to the people of Honduras, the deep sense of grief which the passing of your Ambassador, General Carlos Izaguirre, has occasioned. Ambassador Izaguirre has fulfilled his mission to this country ably and with distinction. Honduras' great loss in the death of this distinguished citizen is shared by the many friends the Ambassador has made in the United States.

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

145 ¶ Remarks Upon Arrival in Panama City for the Meeting of the Presidents of the Americas.

*July 21, 1956**Mr. President and citizens of this great country:*

It is a great honor for me to come back to the country where I served so many years, so long ago that it was before many of you were born. I left here in 1924, after three years of wonderful service among a wonderful people.

It is particularly our privilege to join here with the other Presidents of the Americas, and not only to celebrate an event—a great event in our history of 130 years ago—but in doing so to be able to pay our respects to the President of Panama and to its great people.

I consider it a privilege that I can here, during this visit, represent my people on that kind of errand, and join with the other Presidents of the Americas.

President Arias, I am particularly grateful to you for your warm words of welcome, and for the cordiality that you have expressed toward me, my party, and the people of America.

Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at the Tocumen Airport upon his arrival there at 8:04 a. m. In the second paragraph he referred to the first Inter-American Conference held in 1826.

146 ¶ Address at the Signing of the Declaration
of Principles at the Meeting of the Presidents in
Panama City. July 22, 1956

[Broadcast over the Panama radio and the Armed Forces television in the
Canal Zone]

Your Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen—All my friends everywhere that my voice may reach:

To address a thought to the heads of the American States here assembled is indeed a unique opportunity and a unique honor. I profoundly appreciate it.

We here commemorate the most successfully sustained adventure in international community living that the world has seen. In spite of inescapable human errors in our long record, the Organization of American States is a model in the practice of brotherhood among nations. Our cooperation has been fruitful because all of our peoples hold certain spiritual convictions. We believe:

That all men are created equal;

That all men are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights, including the right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness;

That government is the creation of man, to serve him; not to enslave him;

That those who demonstrate the capacity for self-government thereby win the right to self-government;

That sovereign states shall be free from foreign interference in the orderly development of their internal affairs.

Now, inspired by our faith in these convictions, our nations have developed in this hemisphere institutional relations and a rule of international law to protect the practice of that faith.

Our association began as we experienced the solemn but glorious transition from colonialism to national independence. Our

association was intensified as we sought to maintain that independence against recurrent efforts of colonial powers to reassert their rule. More recently it has been perfected to protect against encroachments from the latter day despotisms abroad.

We are pledged to one another by the Inter-American Treaty of Reciprocal Assistance of 1947 to treat an armed attack by any State against an American State as an attack against all of us. We are joined in the 1954 Declaration of Solidarity for the Preservation of the Political Integrity of the American States against International Communist Intervention.

Furthermore, we are organized to assure peace among ourselves. The time is past, we earnestly believe, when any of our members would use force to resolve hemispheric disputes. Our solemn promises to each other foresee that the community will take whatever measures may be needed to preserve peace within America.

In all of these matters, our nations act as sovereign equals. Never will peace and security be sought at the price of subjecting any nation to coercion or interference in its internal affairs.

Thus, much has been done to assure the kind of national life which was the lofty vision of those early patriots who, in each of our countries, founded our Republics and foresaw the values inherent in hemispheric cooperation.

And so we reach today. May it not be that we can now look forward to a new phase of association, in which we shall dedicate to individual human welfare the same measure of noble effort that heretofore has protected and invigorated the corporate life of our nations?

I do not suggest that the initial task is ended. A nation's peace and liberty can never be taken for granted. We must constantly be vigilant, individually and collectively. But we can, I believe, in the coming years, consecrate more effort to enriching the material, intellectual and spiritual welfare of the individual.

Since the day of creation, the fondest hopes of men and women have been to pass on to their children something better than they

themselves enjoyed. That hope represents a spark of the Divine which is implanted in every human breast.

Too often, from the beginning, those hopes have been frustrated and replaced by bitterness or apathy.

Of course, the problems thus presented are primarily those of the particular country in which the affected individuals reside. But I believe we can be helpful to each other. The possibilities of our partnership are not exhausted by concentration in the political field. Indeed our Organization has already begun to apply the principle that material welfare and progress of each member is vital to the well-being of every other. But we can, I think, do more.

On this matter a simple thought which I have had an opportunity to express to some other American Presidents here has been viewed generously by them. It is that each of us, as President of an American Republic, should name a special representative to join in preparing for us concrete recommendations for making our Organization of American States a more effective instrument in those fields of cooperative effort that affect the welfare of the individual. To those representatives of ours we could look for practical suggestions in the economic, financial, social and technical fields which our Organization might appropriately adopt. As one useful avenue of effort they could give early thought to ways in which we could hasten the beneficial use of nuclear forces throughout the hemisphere, both in industry and in combatting disease.

So earnestly, my friends, do I believe in the possibilities of such an organization for benefiting all our people, that in my own case and with the agreement of the other Presidents to this Organization, I shall ask my brother, Milton Eisenhower—already known to nearly all the Presidents here—to be my Representative on such an organization. He would, of course, in the necessary cases, be supported by the professional and technical men whose assistance would be required.

Now, the coming years will bring to mankind limitless ways in which this nuclear science can advance human welfare. Let us progress together, as one family, in achieving for our peoples these results.

Our Organization can never be static. We are here to commemorate a dynamic concept initiated at the first Inter-American Conference of 1826 convoked by Simon Bolivar. We here pay tribute to the faith of our fathers, which was translated into new institutions and new works. But we cannot go on forever merely on the momentum of their faith. We, too, must have our faith and see that it is translated into works. So, just as our nations have agreed that we should join to combat armed aggression, let us also join to find the ways which will enable our peoples to combat the ravages of disease, poverty and ignorance. Let us give them, as individuals, a better opportunity not only to pursue happiness, but to gain it.

A great family history has drawn together this unprecedented assemblage of the Presidents of the Americas. Perhaps, in our day, it may be given us to help usher in a new era which will add worthily to that history. Thus, we too will have served the future, as we have been greatly served by the past that we honor here today.

Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke in the Bolivar Salon at 3:24 p. m. The Declaration of Principles, signed by the Presidents of 20 American Re-

publics, is published in the Department of State Bulletin (vol. 35, p. 220).

147 ¶ Statement by the President Upon Signing the Farm Credit Act of 1956. *July 26, 1956*

I HAVE TODAY signed into law H. R. 10285, "To merge production credit corporations in Federal intermediate credit banks; to provide for retirement of Government capital in Federal inter-

mediate credit banks; to provide for supervision of production credit associations; and for other purposes.”

It is my earnest desire that we move toward farmer ownership of the Federal intermediate credit banks, and other institutions supervised by the Farm Credit Administration, as rapidly as may be consistent with the maintenance of a sound and stable system of agricultural credit. Progress toward this objective has been gratifying and should be actively encouraged. My deep convictions about the desirability of this objective have led me to sign H. R. 10285 despite some misgiving. In providing for the retirement of Government capital in the Federal intermediate credit banks, the bill relaxes those safeguards which are required to protect the Government’s financial interests and to assure conformity with public policy during the long period of transition to farmer ownership.

Specifically, H. R. 10285 is defective in two respects:

1. The bill removes the budget program of the Federal intermediate credit banks from annual review and approval by the President and the Congress after January 1, 1959.
2. The bill will permit \$62,000,000 of public funds to be paid to stockholders, including private production credit associations and other private financing institutions, upon the liquidation of any intermediate credit bank.

With respect to the first objectionable provision, the Federal intermediate credit banks are now required by the Government Corporation Control Act to prepare and submit each year a budget program for review and approval by the President and the Congress. It is through this annual budgetary review that the President and the Congress are best able to keep currently informed of the banks’ financial operations and to take such action as may be necessary to assure that the banks operate efficiently and economically and that the Government’s investment is protected.

As the debate on the floor of the Senate concerning the bill made clear, enactment of this legislation is not intended to and

will not in fact relieve the Government of its responsibility to provide financial support to the banks. Under the bill, the banks will remain congressionally established credit institutions. They will continue to hold themselves before the public as Governmental agencies and, therefore, agencies backed by the full faith and credit of the Government. They will retain the right to call on the Government for additional capital contributions. The requirements of responsible Government dictate that there be some method of Presidential and Congressional oversight which annual review of the bank's budget program would provide. Accordingly, I urge the Congress to enact legislation as soon as possible to keep the budget program of the Federal intermediate credit banks under Presidential and Congressional review until such time as the banks become wholly privately owned institutions.

The second major defect in this bill is the provision which will permit the \$62,000,000 surplus made available to the intermediate credit banks by the Government to be paid to private stockholders in the event of dissolution or liquidation of any bank. Fortunately, these banks are intended to be permanent institutions and the prospect of the public funds being handed over to private persons is remote. Even so, some legislative action should be taken to prevent such a "windfall" profit to private stockholders. If these public funds cease to be employed to support the farm credit system and thus to promote the general welfare of the agricultural community, they should be returned to the Treasury as the law provided prior to the enactment of this bill. Accordingly, I recommend that the Congress repeal this provision of the bill at the earliest opportunity.

NOTE: As enacted, H. R. 10285 is Public Law 809, 84th Congress (70 Stat. 659).

148 ¶ Statement by the President Upon Signing
Bill Creating the Muscatine Bridge Commission.

July 26, 1956

I HAVE APPROVED today H. R. 11010, "Creating the Muscatine Bridge Commission and authorizing said Commission and its successors to acquire by purchase or condemnation and to construct, maintain and operate a bridge or bridges across the Mississippi River at or near the city of Muscatine, Iowa, and the town of Drury, Illinois."

Last month, a part of the existing bridge between these two cities collapsed into the Mississippi River. Emergency ferry service is being provided on a temporary basis, but the need for an adequate bridge remains urgent. The collapsed span was authorized by an Act of Congress in 1888, and had been operated by a private company, under the terms of the Congressional enactment.

I have approved H. R. 11010 in the belief that the financing and construction of a replacement bridge may be achieved more quickly through the creation of a special bridge commission than by other means presently available to the two States involved. I wish to point out, however, that I would not be inclined to approve the creation of bridge commissions of the type contemplated by H. R. 11010, were it not for the emergency circumstances indicated above.

The construction and operation of interstate bridges traditionally has been a State rather than Federal responsibility. Under the 1946 Bridge Act and the interstate compact procedure, the States should have ample authority to cope with these matters without Federal legislation creating special bridge commissions. Moreover, special bridge commissions, as a method of organization, present serious legal and administrative problems. Important among these is the fact that, because the commissions are

not clearly Federal or State agencies, no official or agency is charged with the responsibility of assuring that they faithfully carry out their public responsibilities.

A number of such bridge commissions are now in existence. Because of the peculiar legal status indicated above, I would recommend that Congress at the earliest practicable time give consideration to the enactment of general legislation which would clarify the status of existing bridge commissions and require that they be subject to the following uniform safeguards:

- (1) Provision for an annual audit by competent authority, and
- (2) Regularized provisions fixing conditions for filling commission vacancies.

I would also suggest that the several States at their forthcoming legislative sessions consider the adequacy of existing State laws to cope with future problems concerning interstate bridges, and to facilitate possible assumption by the States of responsibility for existing Federally-authorized bridge commissions.

NOTE: As enacted, H. R. 11010 is Public Law 811, 84th Congress (70 Stat. 669).

149 ¶ Statement by the President Following the Collision Between the Andrea Doria and the Stockholm. *July 27, 1956*

TO ALL THOSE, of whatever nationality, who participated in the rescue operations following the tragic collision between the Andrea Doria and the Stockholm, I extend personal congratulations and admiration.

The speed with which rescue craft arrived on the scene and the efficient manner in which rescue operations were placed under way saved the lives of many of the passengers and crew of the Andrea Doria. Without such assistance, the tragic toll of life from the accident would have been much higher.

The rescue work was conducted in the finest tradition of maritime service.

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

NOTE: The S. S. Andrea Doria and 45 miles south of Nantucket Island
the S. S. Stockholm collided at sea on July 25.

150 ¶ Statement by the President Concerning
the Settlement of the Steel Strike. *July 27, 1956*

IT IS GOOD NEWS that settlement of the steel strike by free collective bargaining between the United Steelworkers and the steel companies will bring about a resumption of production, will end the loss of jobs and pay for so many people, and has avoided a longer strike with all its serious consequences to the entire nation.

The Secretary of Labor and the Director of the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service were in constant consultation with both parties and were helpful, I believe, in bringing about this settlement.

151 ¶ Statement by the President Upon Signing
the Health Research Facilities Act of 1956.
July 30, 1956

I HAVE TODAY approved S. 849, a bill authorizing a three-year program of Federal grants to help in the construction of health research facilities by public and nonprofit institutions. While this bill is an important step forward in the continuing effort to eliminate disease and disability, it is deficient in two important respects. It fails to provide assistance, as recommended by the Administration, for construction of facilities for

training of medical scientists, and the amounts authorized are inadequate in the light of these needs.

In the State of the Union and special health messages this year, I urged enactment of legislation authorizing \$250 million for a five-year program to assist in the construction of research and teaching facilities for schools of medicine, osteopathy, public health, and dentistry and other research institutions. The new law provides a \$90 million, three-year program for research facilities only.

Even more significant than the size of the stated authorization, however, is the fact that the Administration proposal was for an integrated program embracing all of the essential facilities required by medical, dental, and public health schools. These professional schools are now providing practically all of the skilled scientific and professional talent, for which there is an increasing demand, to maintain and improve the health of the Nation. By assisting them with matching grants to rehabilitate or increase the sorely needed facilities, the Government can provide the needed assistance without interference with their educational policies and independence. Although the funds for research facilities will be extremely helpful, we should extend the assistance to include the laboratories where future health research personnel are being developed. In medical and dental schools, space for research and teaching functions are so closely interrelated with one another that no clear line can be drawn between them.

Therefore, to remedy these deficiencies in the bill, I am hopeful that the next Congress will broaden the law to authorize the funds required for the training facilities which are essential in this period of rapid expansion of medical research.

NOTE: As enacted, S. 849 is Public Law 835, 84th Congress (70 Stat. 717). This statement was released at Gettysburg, Pa.

152 ¶ Statement by the President Upon Signing
the Mutual Security Appropriation Act, 1957.

July 31, 1956

I HAVE TODAY approved H. R. 12130, the Mutual Security Appropriation Act, 1957, which appropriates \$3,766,570,000 for further carrying out the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended, and the Mutual Security Act of 1956. There are two provisions in the act relating to defense support where particular countries are named as eligible recipients of assistance in specified amounts. I regard these provisions as authorizations, and also as limitations on the availability of the amounts specified, rather than as directives. To construe them otherwise would raise substantial Constitutional questions.

NOTE: As enacted, H. R. 12130 is Public Law 853, 84th Congress (70 Stat. 733).

153 ¶ Memorandum of Disapproval of Bill
Pertaining to Improvements of Two Business
Properties in the District of Columbia.

July 31, 1956

I HAVE WITHHELD my approval of H. R. 4993, "To authorize the Board of Commissioners of the District of Columbia to permit certain improvements to two business properties situated in the District of Columbia."

The two properties involved, owned by private corporations, are occupied as gasoline filling stations in a residential use district. Under the zoning regulations promulgated pursuant to the act of March 1, 1920, as amended by the act of June 20, 1938, the two stations may be continued as such in the category of nonconforming uses because they were in existence prior to the enactment of

the zoning statute. However, except under certain conditions, these nonconforming uses cannot be physically extended, enlarged, or improved. At present there are approximately 5,000 nonconforming uses in the District of Columbia.

The Board of Commissioners of the District of Columbia and the National Capital Planning Commission have had underway for the past three years a study looking to a complete revision of the Zoning Regulations for the District of Columbia. That study is almost completed, and when completed will doubtless include provisions dealing with the problem of nonconforming uses. We should not single out two of these now by special legislation and provide benefits for them which cannot be enjoyed by any of the other many nonconforming uses. To do so would constitute an invitation for other special legislative exceptions which, if enacted, could frustrate comprehensive planning and make impossible the orderly development of the Federal City.

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

154 ¶ Memorandum of Disapproval of Bill
Reconveying Mineral Interests in Certain Lands
Acquired by the United States. *July 31, 1956*

I AM WITHHOLDING my approval of S. 1384, a bill "To provide for the reconveyance of all mineral interests in lands acquired by the United States for certain reservoir projects to former owners thereof, and for other purposes."

The purpose of this measure is to authorize and direct the Secretary of the Army, when he determines that the exploration for or exploitation of mineral interests underlying lands within the Arkabutla, Sardis, Enid and Grenada Reservoir projects in Mississippi will not be incompatible with the development, maintenance and operation of these projects, and that the reconveyance of such mineral interests to former owners thereof will be

in the public interest, to convey such interests to the former owners thereof or to their legal heirs upon application made within three years and upon payment to the United States of an amount equal to but not in excess of the purchase price for which said interests were acquired by the United States.

The Department of the Army is nearing the completion of the acquisition of approximately 283,000 acres of land for these four reservoir projects in northwestern Mississippi which are an integral part of the Yazoo River Basin headwater project authorized by the Flood Control Act of June 15, 1936. Approximately 62,000 acres have been acquired subject to retention of oil and gas and minerals of like character by the owners thereof and approximately 106,000 acres of the 218,000 acres acquired in fee simple for three of the reservoirs are available for leasing pursuant to the Mineral Leasing Act for Acquired Lands approved August 7, 1947 (61 Stat. 913). Therefore, there is no objection to the enactment of legislation which would provide for the conveyance of oil and gas and mineral interests of like character underlying some of the lands within these reservoirs to the former owners thereof under conditions provided for in section 2 of the bill.

On 29 March 1956, I approved H. R. 7097, 84th Congress, which provides for the reconveyance of oil and gas and mineral interests in lands within the Demopolis Lock and Dam project, Alabama, by authorizing the Secretary of the Interior to reconvey oil and gas and mineral interests to former owners thereof at the current fair market value of such oil and gas and mineral interests and subject to such reservations and restrictions as in the opinion of the Secretary of the Army are necessary. However, S. 1384 differs significantly from this legislation in that it provides for "payment to the United States of an amount equal to but not in excess of the purchase price for which said interests were acquired by the United States". This provision constitutes a departure from the principle established in other legislation requiring payment of fair market value for minerals disposed of

by sale or lease. Furthermore, it is predicated on the fallacious assumption that there was a determination of the "purchase price" of the minerals separate and apart from surface and other interests at the time fee title to the land was acquired by the United States. While the known presence of minerals and any trading in oil and gas leasehold interests were considered in arriving at the appraised fair market value of lands acquired in fee simple for these projects, no separate valuation was assigned to minerals except in those few instances in which a separate estate in minerals had been previously created. Therefore, it would be impossible at this time to determine, in most instances, the "purchase price" paid for the minerals. Under these circumstances, I believe that the job of administering this legislation would be confusing and unsatisfactory to all concerned. However, in withholding my approval, I am hopeful that the Congress may yet enact legislation relating to the mineral interests in these lands similar to H. R. 7097, 84th Congress (Public Law 459, 84th Congress) referred to above.

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

155 ¶ The President's News Conference of *August 1, 1956.*

THE PRESIDENT. Please sit down.

It's been quite a while since I visited with you. And one of the latest incidents in my own activities was my visit to Panama, which I would like to mention briefly.

It was a unique sort of visit, as you know, one from which I personally felt I derived a tremendous profit of knowledge and understanding, and I am certain that the other heads of state there did the same.

It is the kind of meeting which I am convinced could with benefit to all be held, not often, but at reasonable periods.

Of course, it's always awkward to arrange a meeting like that to which heads of states can go.

I understand that now, guests of the State Department, here this morning are a number of reporters from the Latin American countries. I want to assure them of my personal and official welcome to them, and I hope they have a fine time in our country, and learn something of us, as I know I did of Panama.

I think we shall go to questions.

Q. Marvin L. Arrowsmith, Associated Press: Mr. President, would you tell us how you feel about Harold Stassen's campaign to block the nomination of Vice President Nixon, and to put Governor Herter on the ticket in his place? And can you tell us what you said to Stassen when he first informed you of his plan?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, to answer your last part first, I said very little, because Mr. Stassen didn't come to me for advice. He came to me to tell me what he expected to do.

As you know, I firmly believe in the right of any American citizen to express his own political beliefs and political preferences as he chooses. This applies to me as well as to the Vice President, and the Vice President has assured me of the same kind of thinking himself.

Now, Mr. Stassen having said that, I assured him that that was his right as far as I was concerned, but he had to do it as an individual, not as any member of my official family, that he had to make that distinction very clear.

A little later I think he found—I am speculating a little—but apparently he found that he had stirred up more of a storm than he had anticipated. And he came to me and said in order to carry out his purpose of separating his efforts from the administration and from the White House, he wanted to ask for a leave, which I personally thought was a wise act on his part, and I promptly approved. He is on leave and will remain on leave as long as he is working for this.

Now, as to my feelings about it, I say my feeling is he has got a right to express himself, as any other American has.

Q. Edward T. Folliard, Washington Post and Times Herald: Mr. President, do you feel that you have committed yourself to Vice President Nixon as your running mate this year?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, Mr. Folliard, I am not exactly sure what you mean by "committed yourself."

I have expressed my opinion, in front of this body, of Dick Nixon so often that I think there should be no doubt about my satisfaction with him as a running mate. But I have also said I am not even nominated yet; you must not forget that. And I do uphold the right of the delegates to the convention to nominate whom they choose.

I believe I once said here if any man were nominated as Vice President that the President felt he could not, in good conscience, run with, he would have just one recourse: to submit his own resignation.

Q. Mr. Folliard: Mr. Stassen is going on the assumption that your position is now what it was on February 29th, that is, that the No. 2 place on the ticket would remain open until the convention, until the No. 1 nominee had been selected.

THE PRESIDENT. I think it is open.

Mr. Nixon himself said to me that the last thing that he hoped anyone would consider was that this was a cut and dried affair and that we were trying to foreclose the delegates their right to choose whom they please. He said that in my office within the last few days.

I think I made myself so clear on this subject time and again, that there is really nothing more to be said about it, that I can add to it.

Q. Andrew F. Tully, Jr., Scripps-Howard: Mr. President, in 1952 you had a list of names of men who would be acceptable to you as a vice presidential candidate. Do you have such a list today?

THE PRESIDENT. I haven't made any up yet. But I might say a little further to that question, if I did I would not by any manner of means ever give it to anyone except on the most confidential basis, because I certainly would not be drawn into the great error of saying I would run with this man, with this man, with this man, and finally get to someone and I said, "No, I would not do it."

Q. Mr. Tully: Sir, can I ask if you are planning to make up such a list before the convention?

THE PRESIDENT. I haven't any idea.

Q. Merriman Smith, United Press: Mr. President, some weeks ago you said that if anyone ever proposed a "dump-Nixon movement," that you would create quite a commotion in your office. Have you created such a commotion in the wake of Mr. Stassen's recommendation?

THE PRESIDENT. No, no one ever proposed to me that I dump Mr. Nixon. No one, I think, would have that effrontery.

Q. Mrs. May Craig, Portland (Maine) Press Herald: Mr. Stassen said, in announcing his preference for Herter on the ticket, that large portions of our populace overseas and uncommitted nations would prefer an Eisenhower-Nixon ticket. Aside from commenting on Stassen, do you believe an Eisenhower-Nixon ticket would not have the support of people overseas, and would be detrimental to you in relation to uncommitted nations?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I haven't any source of information, Mrs. Craig, that would allow me to make a positive answer to such a thing. But this is what I do have: as you know, I have sent the Vice President on innumerable trips; and from every country, both from the people, the citizens of that country, and from Americans in the country, I have received only the most glowing reports of his acceptability while there. Now, that's all I have on it.

Q. Charles S. von Fremd, CBS News: Mr. President, would you be equally pleased, sir, to have some other well-qualified Republican, other than the Vice President, as your running mate this year?

THE PRESIDENT. I am not going into comparisons at all.

Q. Thomas N. Schroth, Congressional Quarterly: Mr. President, in its annual analysis of your legislative program, Congressional Quarterly found this session of Congress acted favorably on 103 of your 224 specific requests.

The Republican-controlled 83d Congress did considerably better than that.

Considering the substance of the legislation passed as well as the amount, were you satisfied with the performance of Congress this year on your legislative program?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, with respect to this Congress I have more than one emotion. In certain respects I was highly pleased. In some I was most regretful; and in some I was frankly disappointed.

There were essential parts of the program that I had laid out in my state of the Union speech that were enacted into law. For that I was highly pleased, I was grateful.

There were other parts that seemed to me were handled in such a way as to delay their enactment for a long time: the farm program, the road program, which I wanted to get busy on; and I regretted that delay.

There were other parts that we didn't get at all, particularly some of them that applied to human welfare. For example, we didn't get the school program. We didn't get reinsurance for sickness, that sort of thing. There is a whole list of the things we didn't get, which I could have the press section give you in detail. But it is one of those human things—you are never completely satisfied, I am sure.

Q. Roscoe Drummond, New York Herald Tribune: Mr. President, would you give us your own report on how you feel, and on your decision to remain in the race after the operation?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I don't mind telling you this much and, of course, I mean as far as I know, I can tell you everything on it, but I don't know everything.

Like anybody else, my condition has to be determined for me somewhat by the doctors. As far as my feelings are concerned, from the day I was operated on—and you must remember I was having a pretty rough ride there for 2 or 3 days—from that day on I have improved every day.

Now, the doctors warned me at that time it would be certainly 4 months before I would feel myself, would really want to go play golf, would really want to do the things I have been accustomed to doing. But as far as I know, I have improved every day, and I have nothing that keeps me from going ahead and doing my work.

When I get home one of them, my personal physician, comes in, looks me over, and says I am in good shape.

Now I feel good, but I don't feel as well as I did a year ago at this time.

Q. Sarah McClendon, Austin American: Mr. President, you are being pressed by some nations and by some forces in this country to come out in favor of internationalizing the Suez Canal. Now, I wonder if we did that, if you think that might induce other nations to come forward and say, "Well, why don't we have international control of the Panama Canal?"

THE PRESIDENT. Well, of course, the conditions aren't the same. You see from the convention of 1888, while it recognizes that the concession itself will run out in 1968, that the Suez Canal will always be an international waterway, free for use to all nations of the world in peace and in war.

So the conditions aren't quite the same. Right now the great problem is to make certain of the continued efficient use of this great waterway whose importance is not confined to the neighboring countries or Europe; but, indeed, it is vital to our economy and to our future welfare.

Q. Edward P. Morgan, American Broadcasting Company: Mr. President, there must be times, sir, when you recoil against the constant probing into your personal affairs, and I ask this question in that light. There have been repeated reports, sir,

that you have been suffering since the operation from some kind of dysentery-like disturbance. Is that true?

THE PRESIDENT. No. As a matter of fact, they warned me that I should have a little of that and I never did. They remarked on it several times and I never did.

Q. Richard L. Wilson, Cowles Publications: Mr. President, do you think that Mr. Nixon would detract from the strength of the Republican ticket this fall?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I don't know, Mr. Wilson, because people go by many different guides with which I am not familiar.

But I can say this: he certainly didn't seem to in 1952, and I can't believe that the United States does not consider that Mr. Nixon has made a splendid record as Vice President in these past 4 years. Now that's——

Q. Mr. Wilson: Would you oppose a poll to determine whether or not he has strength and will not subtract——

THE PRESIDENT. I don't oppose any poll. I see they are made all the time. I don't think it makes any difference whether I oppose them or not.

Q. Mr. Wilson: Do you think it makes any sense to have one?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, again, I don't believe it makes much difference. I think they will probably have one anyway, don't you? [*Laughter*]

Q. Raymond P. Brandt, St. Louis Post-Dispatch: Mr. President, Mr. Stassen was compelled to speak as an individual. Other members of the Cabinet or of Cabinet rank came out for Mr. Nixon. Was that because you regard Mr. Nixon as a member of the team?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, at that time, you remember, I mentioned Mr. Nixon myself because he was then occupying the position, and I thought it was only proper and appropriate that in front of such a body as this that I should express my complete satisfaction with him, as I would about Mr. Humphrey or Mr. Folsom or anybody else in my official family.

Now, when you go beyond that, we begin to get into a field which I don't care to venture because eventually I would be doing somebody an injustice.

Q. Mr. Brandt: Well, the point is, you and the Cabinet seem to have given the candidacy of Mr. Nixon your tacit consent.

THE PRESIDENT. I have, certainly, given it consent.

Remember this though, none of us is conducting a campaign for anybody.

Now, Mr. Stassen, as I understand it, says he is going out to conduct a campaign; that is a different story.

Q. Fletcher Knebel, Cowles Publications: Mr. President, do you have a preference for your running mate?

THE PRESIDENT. I think that is a question—as Mr. Morgan says, there are certain of my personal likes and dislikes I can keep to myself.

Q. Peter Lisagor, Chicago Daily News: In the light of what you said about your health, would you have any personal objections to your doctors having a press conference?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I don't know that I have any personal objection, but I understand they had one this morning. I didn't know anything about it, but they had it. So——

Q. Mrs. May Craig, Portland (Maine) Press Herald: We didn't, either.

THE PRESIDENT. Well, it was some place; isn't that true? Some of you must have been there.

Q. John L. Steele, Time Magazine: Mr. President, you told us in the past that you would be happy to have Vice President Nixon as your running mate, if that is the will of the convention. Does that pertain too, to Governor Herter if that should be the will of the convention?

THE PRESIDENT. I told you I would not go beyond Mr. Nixon in this regard because he now occupies the position, and did occupy it when I made my statement.

If I go beyond that, inevitably I am called upon to comment on someone whose name has not been mentioned, but where I

might have reservations. So I am not going to comment beyond that.

Q. Russell Baker, *New York Times*: Could you tell us whether you underwent a long period of indecision after your operation as to whether you would stay in the race, and when you made that decision firmly?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, you must remember this: when you're hurting like I was at that moment you don't read the papers, so I didn't know how much renewed interest had been stirred up in this thing.

As far as I was concerned—this is what the doctors told me—I was suffering from a chronic ailment that had probably begun some 30 years ago—this was after the operation.

You see, the difficulty I had was a disease of young people. I believe I am the fifth case that is of record where anybody 65 years old ever had this. All they said was they had corrected a condition that existed with me for a long time, and I was going to be a lot better. So it never occurred to me there was ever any renewed question.

I didn't begin to have any of this period of indecision you talk about, or doubt, until I got out and read the papers. I have told some of you people at times about the so-called Battle of the Bulge. I didn't get frightened until 3 weeks after it had begun, when I began to read the American papers and found—*[laughter]*—how near we were to being whipped.

Well now, this had a little bit of that same thing, because I had at that moment no question on my mind. I was merely being improved, not hurt, except that I did hurt physically.

Q. David P. Sentner, *Hearst Newspapers*: Mr. President, have you had any discussions with Vice President Nixon or sent him any word regarding the Stassen anti-Nixon campaign or your attitude towards it?

THE PRESIDENT. Mr. Nixon was in my office about 3 days ago. We had a long talk and, of course, we mentioned it casually. There was no point in making it a great matter of debate. Mr.

Nixon, like myself, considers this anyone's privilege. I believe it was the day—well, I don't know, I am not going to guess on what day it was—but it was a very casual and not an important conversation on the matter.

Q. Alan S. Emory, Watertown Times: Mr. President, your personal request to Ambassador Cooper has been credited largely with getting him to reverse his decision not to run for the Senate from Kentucky. I wonder, sir, do you plan to make a similar request to Thomas E. Dewey of New York?

THE PRESIDENT. I didn't make a request of the kind you suggest on Ambassador Cooper. I told him that my reports were that he would make a strong candidate down there, that I would like to see Republican Senators from the State of Kentucky, but that he was doing a good job in India, that he could keep it as long as I was in this position. I just wanted him to know how I felt about both these points, and he could make his own decision.

Q. William McGaffin, Chicago Daily News: Mr. President, this again is one of those personal questions about your health, sir, but I think, perhaps, you don't realize the impact it's had on the people of the country, your having the attack of ileitis and the operation, and a major operation after your heart attack; when we were all in Gettysburg, for instance, I went around and talked to a number of your friends and neighbors to ask them how they felt about your running again.

Well, they all love you, as you know, and they said they are going to vote for you; but really they wished that you wouldn't run because they feel you have done enough for the Nation, you have made so many sacrifices and, sir, they are afraid that you won't last out, they are afraid you won't live for another 4 years.

THE PRESIDENT. Well, sir, I would tell you, frankly, I don't think it is too important to the individual how his end comes, and certainly he can't dictate the time.

What we are talking about here is the importance to the country, and it happens that at this moment the Republican Party apparently thinks I am still important to them and to the country.

Since I believe so much in the Republican Party, and I believe that it needed rebuilding so badly—an effort which I have been making, as you well know—I said I would continue to try.

This is a decision that the American people are going to have to face. I am flattered by what you tell me about my friends and neighbors at Gettysburg, but I have made up my mind this is the thing I should try, and we will see what the American people have to say about it.

Q. John Herling, Editors Syndicate: Mr. President, in your economic report early this year you favored legislation for the relief of depressed economic areas which exist in about 15 States. The Senate passed such a bill, and then the action was up to the House. In the House the Commerce Department representatives and the minority leader were charged with failure to agree to bring such legislation on to the floor of the House by unanimous consent.

Has the Republican leadership explained to you their refusal to back such legislation?

THE PRESIDENT. No. You are telling me something now that I didn't know. As a matter of fact, it is one piece of legislation I was disappointed was not passed, and I don't know the reason lying behind it.

Q. Elizabeth S. Carpenter, Houston Post: Mr. President, the current primaries in the South are bringing a rather alarming outburst of violent talk on the race issue and I wonder if you feel that candidates who cater to this kind of talk do a disservice to their country?

THE PRESIDENT. Mrs. Carpenter, I believe that anyone that stirs up racial hatreds, other antagonisms that are based upon race or religion or differences in basic philosophy—it is always a mistake. It is a very grave error and a disservice to the United States. Extreme statements of this kind can do no one any good.

The path of human progress is not along the path of hatreds; it is not along the path of the extremes. It is along the path that represents the road where people of good will and real

sensibilities can get together and say, "Here is a way we can go together."

I deplore, just as earnestly as I know how, every kind of thing that you describe. I didn't know actually it was going on at such a degree to create comment, and I am sorry.

Q. James B. Reston, *New York Times*: Mr. President, in the light of what you have said about Mr. Nixon this morning and your failure to comment about other candidates for the Vice Presidency, is it not inevitable that we should conclude that Mr. Nixon is your preference?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, you have a right to conclude what you please. But I have said that I would not express a preference. I have said he is perfectly acceptable to me, as he was in 1952. But I am not going beyond that because in 1952 I also put down a few others that were equally acceptable to me. So I see no reason why you draw the conclusion, but you may if you so choose.

Q. Chalmers M. Roberts, *Washington Post and Times Herald*: Mr. President, during your illness there was considerable excitement, both here and abroad, over views credited to Admiral Radford that the Pentagon was thinking of cutting our Armed Forces further by as much as 900,000 men in the next, over the next few fiscal years. Have you discussed this with the Admiral, and could you give us your own views on this problem?

THE PRESIDENT. I have never heard of such proposal made on any serious basis.

On the other hand, I recall the 1953 effort to produce a changed attitude toward our defense services, to stress new weapons, to stress the modern means of delivery of fire power, and to minimize, so far as we could, the use of individuals who could better be employed in building roads and schools and other things necessary.

Now, that same thought has been pursued around the world. Only in the last few months, we have seen the Soviets announce their determination of cutting strength; but it certainly is not

with any idea that they are cutting their total striking and defensive power.

So I will say only this: I would hope that we can progress in this direction of substituting power, speed, mobility, flexibility for just men, men taken away from their homes and serving in the armed services.

Q. Mr. Roberts: Sir, in that——

THE PRESIDENT. I think that is all I have to say.

Q. Herman A. Lowe, Philadelphia News: Mr. President, assuming your renomination, could you give us some idea of your campaigning plans away from Washington?

THE PRESIDENT. As of this moment I have none.

Q. Edward W. O'Brien, St. Louis Globe Democrat: Do you anticipate, sir, that Mr. Stassen will return to your family as a full-fledged and permanent member after this 30-day leave is up?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, so far as I know now, and from the knowledge I have, yes, for the simple reason that Mr. Stassen undertook one of the most difficult, sometimes frustrating, but certainly tedious tasks, and has pursued it earnestly, rigorously, and is trying to do things that very few people would have the patience, the intelligence, and really the courage to do.

I have been very delighted, and one of the reasons that this whole episode sort of disturbed the even tenor of my ways was that I thought "Well now, here is a month that he won't be around." But, as he pointed out, Ambassador Peaslee did carry on his job while he was over in London for 6 or 7 weeks, and there was no reason why he could not do it for 4 weeks. But I think Mr. Stassen has done a very splendid job in the task that I have given him.

Q. A. Robert Smith, Portland Oregonian: Mr. President, I wonder if you would tell us, sir, why you decided not to reappoint Harry Cain to the Subversive Activities Control Board?

THE PRESIDENT. I think the exchange of letters tells the whole story.

Q. Robert G. Spivack, New York Post: Mr. President, I

understand the talk with Dr. Snyder this morning was a rather casual and informal thing. Would you have any objections if reporters were to sit down with Doctors Heaton and Ravdin and discussed the operation and diagnosis?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I am not going to commit them to anything until I talk to them about it. I have never discussed with them the possibility of having a press conference; and it is indeed possible that since it was an operation from which a period of convalescence is essential, they may say there is no reason for having one; but I would certainly want to talk to them before I committed them to anything.

Q. Mr. Spivack: They say they are restricted from doing it.

Q. Henri Pierre, *Le Monde* (Paris): Could you tell us something at this time about your view on the Suez crisis, and could you tell us also something about the message which was sent to you by Sir Anthony Eden and Mr. Mollet?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, of course, I never publicly mention the substance of messages received from heads of other states and governments or the substance of my replies.

Now, the only thing I can say is we are manifestly faced with a very grave issue, important to every country in the world that has a seacoast, and maybe even all the rest. So it is something to be handled with care, to make sure we are just and fair; but we must make certain that the rights of the world are not abused.

Q. Charles Lucey, *Scripps-Howard*: Mr. President, could I ask just one more question on the health matter, sir? As nearly as you can tell now, have you any doubts or any reservations about your ability to carry on the Presidency for another 4 years? That relates to the health matter, sir.

THE PRESIDENT. Well, so far as I know, my answer is I have no doubts.

Now, I have only 20 more days before the convention—and I wouldn't expect any great change in that time.

As I said before, what I have is this: the prognosis of the doctors and the constant improvement I have experienced.

Q. George B. Holcomb, *Labor's Daily*: Mr. President, do you regret the passage by the Congress of the social security bill which contained two provisions which, I understand, the administration opposed, that is, lowering the age limit for women and reducing the age limit for disabled individuals to 50?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I think that certain parts of them were unwise and, therefore, I regret them to that extent—one of the things being that we are loading on the security system something I don't think should be there, and if it is going to be handled, should be handled another way.

Q. Marvin L. Arrowsmith, *Associated Press*: Mr. President, could you tell us what information your doctors have given you as to the possibility of a recurrence of your ileitis trouble?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, there are only four cases, as I told you before, in which they have a record, and they say in none of those four, I believe, was there ever a recurrence. I mean four cases in a man of my age. That is about all they have told me.

Merriman Smith, *United Press*: Thank you, Mr. President.

NOTE: President Eisenhower's ninetyeth news conference was held in the Executive Office Building from 10:32 to 11:04 o'clock on Wednesday morning, August 1, 1956. In attendance: 311.

156 ¶ Statement by the President Upon Signing Bill To Improve Budgeting and Accounting Methods and Procedures. *August 1, 1956*

I HAVE TODAY approved S. 3897, "To improve governmental budgeting and accounting methods and procedures, and for other purposes." This new legislation represents a major step forward toward a better budgeting and accounting system throughout the Government. Its enactment was recommended by the Commission on Organization of the Executive Branch of the Government. As originally introduced, however, the bill would have provided

for adoption of the accrued expenditure appropriation procedure. Such a provision in law would be highly desirable and would have many benefits both for the legislative and executive branches.

I shall recommend to the next Congress that further consideration be given to the enactment of legislation which will permit the use of accrued expenditure appropriations whenever such procedure is considered appropriate in relation to the improved budget and accounting systems developed under the new law.

NOTE: As enacted, S. 3897 is Public Law 863, 84th Congress (70 Stat. 782).

157 ¶ Statement by the President Upon Signing
Bill Establishing a New Survivor Benefit Program
for the Uniformed Services. *August 1, 1956*

I HAVE TODAY, with great satisfaction, approved H. R. 7089, an act to establish a new and equitable survivor benefit program for members and former members of the uniformed services.

The Congress, by completely revising the entire military survivorship system for the first time in many years, has given a measure of financial security to the families of our soldiers, sailors, airmen and marines which will enable them to face the inherent hazards and uncertainties of military life with increased confidence. Thus, this important measure will have a far-reaching effect on service personnel, at home or stationed on our widely flung posts, ships and bases around the world.

NOTE: As enacted, H. R. 7089 is Public Law 881, 84th Congress (70 Stat. 857).

158 ¶ Statement by the President Upon Signing the Social Security Amendments of 1956.

August 1, 1956

I HAVE TODAY signed H. R. 7225, the Social Security Amendments of 1956. The new law embraces a wide range of changes in old-age and survivors insurance, the public assistance programs, and child welfare services.

This Administration's strong support of the social security program was demonstrated by the broad expansion and improvements enacted in 1954 at my recommendation. The 1954 Amendments, which extended coverage of the program to millions of additional persons and included higher benefits for all who were then or who would become beneficiaries, have had a major impact in bringing greater security to our people.

The new law also contains certain major provisions which were recommended by the Administration. It extends social security coverage to about 600,000 additional farm owners or operators and about 225,000 self-employed lawyers, dentists, and others.

It provides for increased Federal funds to encourage better medical care for the needy aged, blind, disabled, and dependent children. This will help meet a critical problem for these groups.

Another Administration proposal placed increased emphasis, in public assistance programs, on services to help more needy people build toward independence. The law initiates new programs of grants to train more skilled social workers and to support research in ways of helping people overcome dependency. Another Administration proposal will increase funds for child welfare services.

The law also includes provisions about which the Administration had serious reservations in their initial form; these provisions were modified and improved before their final enactment and now meet, in part, some of the Administration's objections.

The original proposal to lower the retirement age for all women was changed to provide that employed women and wives may accept reduced benefits at an earlier age or obtain full benefits at age 65. I am hopeful that this provision will now have no adverse effect on employment opportunities for older women. The law allows full benefits at age 62 for widows because of their special needs.

Congress also modified somewhat the original proposal to provide disability benefits at age 50 or above. A separate trust fund was established for the disability program in an effort to minimize the effects of the special problems in this field on the other parts of the program—retirement and survivors' protection. We will, of course, endeavor to administer the disability provisions efficiently and effectively, in cooperation with the States. I also pledge increasing emphasis on efforts to help rehabilitate the disabled so that they may return to useful employment.

The original proposal would have imposed a 25 percent increase in social security taxes on everyone covered by the system. I am pleased that the tax increase has now been cut in half. Our actuaries report that while they cannot estimate costs of the disability program with certainty, the tax increase should be adequate to finance the benefits, assuming effective administration.

Although there were differences of opinion over separate provisions, the final legislation was approved overwhelmingly by Congress. In signing this legislation, I am hopeful that this new law, on the whole, will advance the economic security of the American people.

NOTE: As enacted, H. R. 7225 is Public Law 880, 84th Congress (70 Stat. 807).

159 ¶ Statement by the President Upon Signing
Bill To Incorporate the National Music Council.

August 1, 1956

IN APPROVING the bill (H. R. 8110), to incorporate the National Music Council, I wish to salute musicians and the important part they play in the life of our people. American music has brought us pleasurable distinction at home and abroad.

Congress has chartered the National Music Council because of its important and effective role as a central body representing virtually all of the major voluntary musical organizations in our country. Its members include symphony orchestras, song writers, choruses, educational associations, publishers, labor unions, music clubs, and others. Thus the National Music Council is truly representative of the American way of life, in which music can flourish as it should in a free democratic society, as a voluntary activity under the nourishment and control of private citizens.

Millions of Americans are engaged in the creation, performance and active appreciation of music. Indeed it is a rare day when any one of us does not hear some form of music; it is hard to imagine our lives without it. The enjoyment of music—speaking for myself, at least—has a moral and spiritual value which is unique and powerful. It reaches easily and quickly across lingual, racial and national barriers. The development of American music, and the native development of any art, is therefore the development of a national treasure.

NOTE: As enacted, H. R. 8110 is Public Law 873, 84th Congress (70 Stat. 794).

160 ¶ Memorandum of Disapproval of Bill for
the Relief of Jean Pfeifer. *August 1, 1956*

I AM WITHHOLDING my approval of S. 277, for the relief of Jean Pfeifer.

The bill would permit the payment of a lump-sum death payment under section 202 (i) of the Social Security Act to Mrs. Jean Pfeifer in connection with the death of her son, John S. Inches, without regard to the statutory limitation on the period within which an application for such payment may be filed.

The facts in the case are as follows:

Mr. Inches died on August 7, 1951. His mother, Mrs. Pfeifer, paid burial costs in connection with her son's death. She did not, however, file an application for the lump-sum death payment until September 21, 1953, more than 2 years after the death of her son. Mrs. Pfeifer states that she or another surviving son had telephoned to the local office of the Social Security Administration on different occasions before the period had elapsed asking for application forms, but there are no records of such calls in the Social Security Administration files. In view of her failure to file application for the lump-sum death payment within the time fixed by law, the Bureau of Old-Age and Survivors Insurance of the Social Security Administration held that Mrs. Pfeifer was ineligible for the payment. This action of the Bureau was affirmed, after a hearing, by a referee of the Appeals Council in the Social Security Administration.

I am reluctant to deny relief in a case of this kind, but there are at least two persuasive considerations which compel me to withhold my approval: (1) a much more desirable remedy is provided for in the revision of the Social Security Act that I approved today, and (2) enactment of S. 277 would establish for the Social Security Program an undesirable precedent which until now has been avoided.

Since 1939 the Social Security Act has required that an appli-

cation for the lump-sum death payment be filed within 2 years of the death of the individual involved. The courts have held that failure to file application within this period may not be waived or excused, even though it arises from misunderstanding or unawareness.

This bill would provide special relief permitting one individual to receive a social insurance benefit under conditions identical with those under which, under the basic law, the same benefit must be denied to others similarly situated. Such special legislation, as I stated in vetoing H. R. 1334, 83rd Congress, is undesirable and contrary to sound principles of equity and justice.

This is not to say that there may not in some cases be equities which warrant extending the statutory time limit. But any modification in the provisions of the Social Security Act that might be desirable to allow for such cases should, I believe, be made in the basic law and stated in general terms so as to be applicable to all persons similarly circumstanced, rather than requiring claimants who believe that they have such equities to seek individual relief through the process of private legislation, which is both burdensome and hazardous to the claimant and costly to the public. The revision of the Social Security Act approved today contains an amendment to the basic law which would afford an opportunity, not only to Mrs. Pfeifer but to all claimants similarly circumstanced, to become entitled to a lump-sum death payment under the Social Security Act upon showing good cause for the belated filing of an application.

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

161 ¶ Statement by the President Upon Signing
the Health Amendments Act of 1956.

August 2, 1956

I AM PLEASED to approve S. 3958, a measure which combines into a single bill five health proposals which I have recommended to the 84th Congress.

Three programs initiated by the bill are aimed at the reduction of critical shortages of health personnel. Federal aid is authorized for accelerating the training of public health specialists; of professional nurses qualified for teaching, administrative, and supervisory positions; and of practical nurses.

A fourth part of the bill is directed toward shortages of health facilities. It would extend for two additional years the existing Public Health Service program of construction grants for hospitals and related health facilities. This program, which was amended in 1954 to give new emphasis to building nursing homes and other facilities for the care of the chronically ill, would otherwise expire at the end of the current fiscal year. A two-year extension will assure continuity of the program, pending a careful review of all its provisions.

The final portion of the bill broadens the research grant authority of the Public Health Service in the critically important field of mental health. It authorizes special project grants to support experiments, demonstrations, and studies—with particular attention to projects designed to improve the care and treatment of patients in State institutions for the mentally ill. With half of the hospital beds in the country occupied by mental patients, improved institutional care will bring rewards in the reduction of human suffering as well as in easing the financial burden of long-term hospitalization.

NOTE: As enacted, S. 3958 is Public Law 911, 84th Congress (70 Stat. 923).

162 ¶ Statement by the President Upon Signing
the Customs Simplification Act of 1956.

August 2, 1956

I HAVE TODAY approved H. R. 6040, the Customs Simplification Act of 1956.

The heart of this measure is a revision of valuation procedures. This change will do more than any other single measure to free the importation of merchandise from customs complications and pitfalls for the inexperienced importer. It allows our customs value decisions to be based on normal commercial values current in trade with the United States. It permits businessmen to predict with greater certainty the amount of tariff duty to be paid on imports. It simplifies the valuation work of the Bureau of Customs and reduces delay in the assessment of duties.

I am also particularly gratified to approve H. R. 6040 because it marks the culmination of the legislative proposals which this Administration has made for customs simplification and customs management improvement. The Customs Simplification Act of 1953 made many important changes in customs administrative provisions which have resulted in more certain and equitable duty assessments. The Customs Simplification Act of 1954 began a study by the United States Tariff Commission looking toward a much needed revision of the tariff classification schedules of 1930 and made helpful changes in the administration of the antidumping laws. With the passage of H. R. 6040 all of the principal improvements relating to customs procedures recommended on January 23, 1954, by the Commission on Foreign Economic Policy, which I endorsed in my Special Message of March 30, 1954, have now been authorized or undertaken.

The legislation previously passed by the Congress, together with the regulatory and administrative changes made by the Treasury Department and the Bureau of Customs, have in the past three years cut the average time required for a final decision

on customs duties from about one year to less than six months. Further progress in this direction is expected and I am confident that H. R. 6040 will contribute to it.

It cannot be said that our work is completed because customs simplification and procedural improvement problems require continuous attention. However, all of these measures add up to a record of real accomplishment in the Administration's program for greater certainty, fairness, and efficiency in customs administration. They represent real progress in facilitating the expansion of our trade with other nations, an essential step in strengthening our own economy and the economies of the Free World that are linked to ours.

NOTE: As enacted, H. R. 6040 is Public Law 927, 84th Congress (70 Stat. 943).

163 ¶ Memorandum of Disapproval of Bill for the Relief of the City of Elkins, West Virginia.

August 3, 1956

I HAVE WITHHELD my approval from S. 2182, a bill "For the relief of the city of Elkins, West Virginia." This bill would relieve the city of Elkins of all liability to repay a \$75,000 loan (and all unpaid accrued interest) which it received from the Reconstruction Finance Corporation.

The facts on this bill are clear. Under the World War II Defense Area Landing program, the Federal Government undertook, under certain circumstances, to build airports for communities which would provide appropriate land. In July 1943, the city of Elkins agreed with the Civil Aeronautics Administration to furnish land for an airport. The United States Government agreed to pay the cost of constructing the airport. Elkins then applied to the Reconstruction Finance Corporation and was granted a loan of \$75,000 to purchase the land. The

loan was evidenced by \$75,000 of 4 percent Airport Revenue Bonds issued by the city. The city has made no payment on principal and is now in default on bonds aggregating \$24,000. Some interest payments have been made but the accrued and unpaid interest as of May 1, 1956 amounts to \$22,400. Through the Civil Aeronautics Administration, the Government has expended over \$1,000,000 on the airport.

The issues involved in the bill are likewise clear:

(1) The original agreement was fair and Elkins has received and will continue to receive benefits at least proportionate to its relatively small share of the airport's total cost.

(2) The bill would give special treatment to a single community and thereby discriminate against other communities which built airports during World War II with Federal assistance. Of over 500 municipalities, representing every one of the forty-eight States, which entered into similar contracts with the Civil Aeronautics Administration, the city of Elkins is the only one which applied to the Reconstruction Finance Corporation for a loan to finance the purchase. The proposed legislation would relieve the city from any obligation to repay the loan. Thus, in effect, the Federal Government would have both constructed the airport and provided the land. No other municipality has received such special treatment.

(3) The bill would set a precedent which could be used by many other communities to urge cancellation of their obligations held by the Federal Government. In all, the Reconstruction Finance Corporation made loans to over 6,000 municipalities and other public bodies. Of these, there are still outstanding 75 issues of municipal obligations totalling approximately seven million dollars. To relieve Elkins as provided in this bill would be to give that city a preference which was not given to any other city granted loans by the Corporation. Undoubtedly, special circumstances exist in many of the communities whose obligations remain unpaid. Testimony presented to the House

Committee on the Judiciary suggests that the case for relief from their obligations might be as persuasive as in the case of Elkins. The precedent set by this bill could, moreover, adversely affect collections on loans to local governments under several other continuing Federal programs.

This bill involves one community and a relatively small amount of money; but it would establish undesirable principles and precedents affecting many other communities and many millions of dollars. I have, therefore, withheld my approval of S. 2182.

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

164 ¶ Remarks of the President During the
Broadcast on the Suez Canal Situation by Secretary
Dulles. *August 3, 1956*

[Broadcast over radio and television from the President's Office at 7:00 p. m.]

Good evening, my fellow citizens:

All of us, of course, appreciate the tremendous importance of the Suez Canal. Its continuous and effective operation is vital to the economy of our country, indeed to the economies of almost all of the countries of the world. So all of us were vastly disturbed when Colonel Nasser a few days ago declared that Egypt intended to nationalize the Suez Canal Company.

At that moment, Secretary Dulles was in South America, but as soon as he returned and because of his great experience, his wisdom, in this kind of affair, he went at my request to London to confer with our British and French friends concerning a proper course of action.

This noon he returned. Because of the information he has and the background he can give you, I instantly asked the television industry to give him a few minutes this evening to explain

to you what he can this evening, and give you a report on what he has been talking about in London.

Secretary Dulles.

[At this point Secretary Dulles spoke on the background of the Suez situation and outlined the decision agreed upon in London to call a conference to plan for international operation of the Canal. The President then resumed speaking.]

Mr. Secretary, I think that everybody who hears you this evening will be certain you carried out this latest assignment in accordance with the principle which has always activated you, to uphold the interests of the United States in the international field with due regard for fairness to every other nation, and with the objective of promoting peace in the world.

Thank you very much indeed, Mr. Dulles.

NOTE: The full text of the broadcast was published by the Department of State in a pamphlet entitled "The Suez Situation—Report to the Nation" (Series S-50).

165 ¶ Statement by the President Upon Signing the Small Reclamation Projects Act of 1956.

August 6, 1956

I HAVE APPROVED H. R. 5881, "To supplement the Federal reclamation laws by providing for Federal cooperation in non-Federal projects and for participation by non-Federal agencies in Federal projects."

The bill authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to contract with States, irrigation districts, water users' associations and other eligible organizations within the seventeen western reclamation States for the purpose of assisting such organizations in the construction of small reclamation projects. The Federal assistance

would be in the form of grants and loans within the limitations prescribed by the bill.

I have approved this bill only because the Congress is not in session to receive and act upon a veto message and because I have been assured that the committees which handled the bill in the Congress will take action to correct its deficiencies early in the next session. Specifically, a provision found in Section 4 (c) is seriously faulty. The section provides that:

“ . . . no such contract shall be executed by the Secretary prior to sixty calendar days . . . from the date on which the project proposal has been submitted to both branches of the Congress for consideration by the appropriate committees thereof, and then only if neither such committee, by committee resolution and notification in writing to the Secretary, disapproves the project proposal within such period: *Provided*, That if both such committees, in the same manner and prior to the expiration of such period, approve the project proposal, then the Secretary may proceed to execute the contract: *Provided further*, That in the event either committee disapproves the project proposal, the Secretary shall not proceed further unless the Congress has approved the same.”

This language would thus require, before a project negotiated under the Act is allowed finality, a further act by the legislature. The action required can be viewed as either a legislative act or an executive act. However construed, constitutional defects are inherent. Viewed as requiring a further legislative act, the section is open to the objection that it involves an unlawful delegation by the Congress to its committees of a legislative function which the constitution contemplates the Congress itself, as an entity, should exercise.

If the further act is considered as not legislative in nature, then there is involved what appears to be an unconstitutional infringement of the separation of powers prescribed in Articles I and II of the Constitution. I do not believe that the Congress can validly delegate to one of its committees the power to prevent

executive actions taken pursuant to law. To do so in this case would be to divide the responsibility for administering the program between the Secretary of the Interior and the designated committees. Such a procedure would be a clear violation of the separation of powers within the Government and would destroy the lines of responsibility which the Constitution provides.

Furthermore, the negotiation and execution of a contract is a purely executive function. Although the Congress may prescribe the standards and conditions under which executive officials may enter into contracts, it may not lodge in its committees or members the power to make such contracts, either directly or by giving them the power to approve or disapprove a contract which an executive officer proposes to make.

I believe it to be my duty to uphold the Constitutional principle that only the Congress can make the laws and only the executive branch can administer them. I am certain that there is little disagreement with this proposition and I have been assured that the purpose of the Congress in approving Section 4 (c) was to facilitate legislative oversight of a new program. Fortunately, that objective can be attained through well tested procedures fully compatible with our system of Government; for example, the Congress may require the Secretary of the Interior to submit such reports as it may find of value in carrying on its legislative functions.

Because of the general merit of this measure, I am approving it. The Secretary of the Interior will review project proposals received by the Department and will prepare to take action as soon as appropriations are made to implement the bill and Section 4 (c) has been removed or revised. If the Congress will act promptly after it convenes in January, there need be no delay in starting this program.

NOTE: As enacted, H. R. 5881 is Public Law 984, 84th Congress (70 Stat. 1044).

166 ¶ Letter to Nikolai Bulganin, Chairman,
Council of Ministers, U. S. S. R. *August 7, 1956*

[Released August 7, 1956. Dated August 4, 1956]

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I refer to your letter of June 6 to which I have given a great deal of thought.

It confirmed your announcement of last May that you plan to reduce somewhat the manpower level of your armed forces. Such a reduction I welcome. That would correspond with the action of the United States Government in steadily reducing the size of its armed forces ever since the end of World War II, with an exception only for the Korean war period.

However, I doubt that such reductions of this particular kind as our governments may make in their respective national interests will contribute effectively to eliminate the fear, and the vast cost, generated by national armaments. There is obvious need of international supervisory mechanisms and controls which will encourage greater reductions. I regret that we have made so little progress in this respect.

Some time ago I agreed to your proposal for ground inspection on the assumption that you would also agree to my proposal for aerial inspection, and exchange of military information, made at Geneva a year ago. So far, I understand that you reject this on the ground that it would be an intelligence operation. What I proposed was to be preceded by an exchange of complete military blueprint information, and was designed to make known to each other that neither of us is preparing a sudden massive attack against the other, and that each of us is fulfilling such agreements as I trust we shall be able to reach in the field of disarmament. Surely that kind of intelligence is desirable and necessary, and in the interest of peace and international confidence. Can we not make progress on this?

And also I recall my letter to you of March 1, 1956, when I proposed that, after a date to be agreed upon, production of fissionable materials anywhere in the world would no longer be used to increase the stockpiles of explosive weapons. I had hoped that this proposal, which seemed to me to be of considerable significance, would appeal to you as an important step toward bringing the nuclear threat under control. However, you have never responded to that proposal, and your letter of June 6 makes no reference to the control of nuclear weapons. May I again urge careful consideration of the matter, and especially my proposal of last March?

You refer in your letter to a possible reduction of our respective forces in Germany. Obviously the problem of forces in Germany cannot be dealt with as an isolated matter. In this respect, I must confess that I am greatly disturbed by the developments which have occurred since we met at Geneva last year. We there agreed that the reunification of Germany was a common responsibility of the four Governments at Geneva, and we also agreed that Germany should be reunified by means of free elections carried out in conformity with the national interests of the German people and the interests of European security. Not only has this not happened, but I hear of statements from your side which seem to imply that your Government is determined to maintain indefinitely the division of Germany.

I must confess that I am perplexed as to how we can work together constructively if agreements which are negotiated at the highest level after the most thorough exploration do not seem dependable.

Nevertheless, it is my earnest hope that we will find ways to make progress toward a meaningful control of armaments, a hope shared, I believe, not only by ourselves but by the peoples of the world.

I and my associates have never ceased to give the most intensive study to this whole matter of limitation of armaments and

above all the elimination of the growing threat of nuclear weapons and new means of delivery. If this study develops further possibilities of international action, as I trust it will, I shall communicate them to you, either directly or through the appropriate organs of the United Nations. In this connection, I must say that I do not share your view about the activities of the United Nations Disarmament Subcommittee. Discussions there have done much to shed light on this difficult problem and, I hope, to narrow somewhat the gap between our points of view.

May we not, Mr. Chairman, do more to realize the hopes which were born of our meeting at Geneva? We then made promises, notably about Germany, which desperately need to be fulfilled. We pledged ourselves to disarmament efforts which could be fruitful of good for all the world if only we could agree on measures of supervision and control which should be attainable if neither of us has anything hostile to hide. We sought to find the way to develop contacts which would enable our peoples, through better knowledge of each other, to strengthen their friendship, which can be a precious bulwark of peace.

We realize that efforts are being made in your country to eradicate some of the evils of an earlier period. This we welcome. But I hope that you and your associates will not confine these efforts to those evils as manifested within your Party and nation. Those evils were also projected into the international field. Even today they constitute a grievous obstacle to doing those things which we both agreed ought to be done. This situation needs also to be remedied by a new spirit for which I earnestly appeal.

I am,

Sincerely,

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

NOTE: Mr. Bulganin's letter of June 300). For the President's letter of 6, 1956, is published in the Department of State Bulletin (vol. 35, p. March 1, 1956, see Item 52 above.

167 ¶ Statement by the President Upon Signing
the Federal Flood Insurance Act of 1956.

August 7, 1956

I HAVE TODAY signed into law the Federal Flood Insurance Act of 1956.

This Act directs the Housing and Home Finance Administrator to establish a system of indemnification, within limits, for losses sustained in flood and tidal disaster; to re-insure private insurance coverage of such losses; and to assure a line of credit, where necessary, for the restoration and reconstruction of properties damaged or lost as a result of flood.

I believe this Act will open the way to a new field of protection for our homes and our business and community properties against one of the most serious exposures to loss that we face today. Protection against loss from virtually every other type of natural disaster is already obtainable at practical cost. But we have not yet developed a feasible method of insuring against the unpredictable and catastrophic losses that floods entail.

The average annual flood damage that the Nation suffers runs into hundreds of millions of dollars, and in years of major disaster, such as 1951 and 1955, is in excess of a billion dollars. Private insurance companies have found no way within the limits of their own resources to venture into this field of risk without danger of being wiped out before adequate reserves can be established. No attempt up to now has been made to use public resources to develop a method of indemnification as a solution of this problem.

Last year, only four years after the flood disaster in the mid-west, major floods wrought tremendous damage to homes and businesses and whole communities both in the East and the West. It seemed to me, therefore, that the Government, in the public interest, should take the lead in developing a means of

helping our people to protect themselves against having their assets and their livelihood wiped out overnight.

This new program is a venture into an untested field of risk protection, and is admittedly experimental. It does not propose putting the Federal Government permanently into the flood insurance business. On the contrary, it provides for the government to lead the way on a basis that will enable this field of responsibility to be absorbed into our private system in the shortest possible time.

The Act provides that the insurance extended shall to the fullest degree possible be issued through private insurance carriers. It authorizes public funds to help establish a system of protection against flood loss, but at the same time encourages and assists private insurance companies, on the basis of developing experience, to employ their own means for insuring against such risks. The full cooperation and active support of the private insurance carriers is an essential to the successful accomplishment of the Act's immediate and ultimate objectives.

A maximum public subsidy of 40 percent is authorized to supplement fee (or premium) payments by policy-holders. Initially I had recommended that this subsidy be shared equally between the Federal and State governments.

The Congress determined, however, that state participation should be deferred until July 1, 1959, with the Federal Government carrying the full subsidy cost until that time. This will give all states an ample period in which to consider the importance of flood loss protection for their citizens and to take the required legislative action to participate in the program.

As I see it, it is a proper function of the Federal Government to pioneer the establishment of a system of insured protection against the crippling losses of flood and tidal disaster. But when such a disaster strikes, it does not strike the country as a whole. Its severity is concentrated in specific areas and localities, and no one can predict where they will be. It is accordingly proper

and just that each state should help share the cost of such protection in due proportion to the benefits that its citizens receive.

It is important, therefore, that state and local governments and the state legislatures familiarize themselves at an early date with the financial, as well as the flood zoning requirements of this Act in order that they will be fully prepared, by the date set, to continue the program's benefits to their citizens if they so choose.

NOTE: The Federal Flood Insurance Act of 1956 is Public Law 1016, 84th Congress (70 Stat. 1078).

168 ¶ Statement by the President Upon Signing Bill To Amend the Railroad Retirement Act of 1937. *August 7, 1956*

I HAVE TODAY signed S. 3616, "To amend the Railroad Retirement Act of 1937 to provide increases in benefits, and for other purposes."

The bill provides generally for a 10 percent increase in existing benefits under the Railroad Retirement Act. The principal exceptions are those widows, spouses, and survivors who are now receiving benefits under the social security minimum guarantee provisions.

I take this action for two reasons: First, it will help thousands of retired railroad employees and their wives to meet their day to day living expenses. Secondly, the Senate Labor and Public Welfare Committee has indicated its unanimous determination to act promptly in the next session of the Congress on a measure which will finance the cost of these benefit increases. Representatives of railroad labor organizations also have given firm assurances that they will propose at the opening of the next Congress a program to assure adequate financing of the railroad

retirement system. It is imperative that satisfactory legislation for this purpose be proposed and enacted.

Failure to take this action would mean that the time will come when the existing reserve fund of the railroad retirement system will be exhausted. Then the program would be left without sufficient income to meet its benefit obligations to the thousands of hard-working railroad employees who are now contributing to the fund. It has been proposed that the burden of higher employee payroll taxes might be offset through a special exemption which would exclude employee contributions from income tax and from tax withholding provisions of present law. Neither such a device nor other Federal contribution, whether directly or indirectly made, would be equitable. This was made clear when the administration opposed the proposal at the time of its recent consideration in the Congress. It would amount to an indirect assessment of the rest of the community for improvements in the retirement system for a single industry.

From the establishment of the railroad retirement system in 1937, it has been clearly intended that the benefits be financed entirely by employer and employee payroll contributions. The rate payable by railroad employees is $6\frac{1}{4}$ percent on compensation up to \$350 a month. Employers pay an equal amount. For some time it has been a matter of concern to the executive branch of the Government that the combined payroll tax rate of $12\frac{1}{2}$ percent is not sufficient fully to finance the estimated future liabilities of the railroad retirement program.

The Sixth Actuarial Evaluation of the railroad retirement program, issued in May of this year, states in part as follows:

“ . . . The difference between the 14.13 percent needed to finance the liabilities of the Railroad Retirement Act and the 12.5 percent currently collected is \$86,390,000 a year, which indicates that an increase in the revenues is needed, if the system is to be maintained on a sound reserve basis. At the present time the current disbursements for benefits amount to approximately 97.5 percent of the taxes currently collected, and the time when dis-

bursements will exceed taxes at the current rate of 12.5 percent is imminent . . .”

It is estimated that the benefit increases provided in S. 3616 will cost \$83 million a year at a level premium basis, raising the deficiency to \$169 million a year. At present tax rates and existing payroll levels, this obviously will aggravate the dangers referred to in the evaluation report. Corrective action is imperative. It should be taken promptly in the next session of the Congress.

NOTE: As enacted, S. 3616 is Public Law 1013, 84th Congress (70 Stat. 1076).

169 ¶ Statement by the President Upon Signing Bill Pertaining to the Great Plains Conservation Program. *August 7, 1956*

I HAVE TODAY approved H. R. 11833 which amends the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act and the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938 to provide a long range conservation program for the ten Great Plains States.

In proposing this legislation to the Congress last January, I pointed out that this vast agricultural domain, peopled by seventeen million of our citizens, is subject to severe climatic variations which periodically produce widespread suffering and heavy economic losses. Farm families in this area have a continuous struggle to protect their best growing and grazing lands against soil erosion during seasons of high wind and extremely dry weather. Every citizen in the country has an interest in solving the agricultural problems of this vast Great Plains region, for it contains 37 percent of our nation's land area and 40 percent of our crop land.

These amendments to the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act and the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938 authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to enter into long-term

contracts with farmers and ranchers in the Great Plains States to assist them in making orderly changes in their cropping systems and land uses which will conserve soil and water resources and preserve and enhance the agricultural stability of that area. This new authority is an important part of long range plans which have been developed under the leadership of the Secretary of Agriculture in cooperation with the Great Plains Agricultural Council. These plans visualize a broad sharing of responsibilities among land owners and operators, local leaders, and county and State governments, with the cooperation of the Federal Government.

NOTE: As enacted, H. R. 11833 is Public Law 1021, 84th Congress (70 Stat. 1115).

170 ¶ Statement by the President Upon Signing
Bill To Amend the Watershed Protection and Flood
Prevention Act. *August 7, 1956*

I HAVE TODAY approved H. R. 8750, a bill "To amend the Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act." This new law broadens the program now being carried out by the Secretary of Agriculture in cooperation with local organizations sponsoring land and water conservation projects. The general purposes of the new law are useful and in keeping with the concern which this Administration has continually expressed as to the need for a partnership between the Federal Government and the local people in conserving two of our most valuable resources—soil and water.

I regret that in one respect the new law is a step backwards. Under its terms the Federal Government will be required to assume the full cost of building structural works which provide flood reduction benefits. The Department of Agriculture and other Executive agencies opposed this provision when the bill

was under consideration by the Congress. I agree that their opposition was well founded. It is unfortunate that the Congress has chosen to write into the law an incentive to local people to shift to the Federal Government a burden in which they should be willing to invest their own money in a joint enterprise with the Federal Government. Fortunately, the immediate effects of this provision will not be great. I am convinced of the soundness of the partnership philosophy and of public acceptance of the principle of cost sharing on public works projects. I believe that, upon consideration of legislation which will be proposed to carry out the recommendations of the Presidential Advisory Committee on Water Resources Policy, the Congress will agree and will change this feature of the law. I shall so recommend when the Congress is again in session.

NOTE: As enacted, H. R. 8750 is Public Law 1018, 84th Congress (70 Stat. 1088).

171 ¶ The President's News Conference of *August 8, 1956.*

THE PRESIDENT. Sit down, please.

Good morning. We will go right to questions.

Q. Louis Cassels, United Press: Mr. President, would you tell us, sir, how you feel about the use or threat of military force in the Suez dispute?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I can't answer that question quite as abruptly and directly as you have asked it.

The United States has every hope that this very serious difficulty will be settled by peaceful means. We have stood for the conference method not only as a solution to this problem but in all similar ones.

It is well to remember that we are dealing with a waterway here that is not only important to all the economies of the world,

but by treaty was made an international waterway in 1888, and is exactly that.

It is completely unlike the Panama Canal, for example, which was a national undertaking carried out under bilateral treaty.

I can't conceive of military force being a good solution certainly under conditions as we know them now and in view of our hopes that things are going to be settled peacefully.

Q. Clark R. Mollenhoff, Des Moines Register: Mr. President, have the British indicated informally that they will seek an agreement with the United States before taking any military action in the Suez?

THE PRESIDENT. With a subject such as these delicate negotiations going on, I wouldn't undertake to reveal anything that goes on in the diplomatic communications between ourselves and any other country. That would be a breach of faith.

Q. Charles von Fremd, CBS News: Mr. President, do you think, sir, on the basis of what you know and the reports you have received from Secretary Dulles, that there is a danger that the two sides have committed themselves so deeply that a peaceful solution would be very difficult or virtually impossible?

THE PRESIDENT. Not yet. I think there is good reason to hope that good sense will prevail. Here is something that is so important to the whole world that I think a little sober second thinking is going to prevail in a good many quarters. It is one of those things that just has to be settled, and I would like to point out that damage and destruction are no settlement when you are trying to build and to construct.

Q. Charles W. Roberts, Newsweek: Mr. President, your Chief of Staff, Governor Adams, paid a courtesy call on Governor Herter yesterday. I wonder if he carried any message from you.

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I am getting my first news that he did make such a call. Thank you very much for telling me. I didn't know it.

Q. Ben Meyer, Associated Press: Mr. President, Panama, your recent host, seems irritated they were not invited to the London

conference of this month despite that they are one of the biggest shipping countries in the world. Would you comment on that, sir?

THE PRESIDENT. I didn't know they were irritated, and I can't comment on it because this is the first time I have thought about it.

Q. William McGaffin, *Chicago Daily News*: Mr. President, in the event that a war does develop over the Suez Canal, do you think the United States will be in it?

THE PRESIDENT. I am not going to speculate that far ahead. That is piling an if on top of an if, and I think I will not try to comment.

Q. Peter Korteweg, *Grote Provinciale Dagbladen*, The Netherlands: Mr. President, a few days ago the Government of Indonesia suddenly canceled their debts to the Netherlands, debts which she formerly had recognized. How do you evaluate, sir, this move in regard to the general stability in the world and the trust in international agreements?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, you are asking me to comment on something which I know very little about. Now the only thing I can say, I believe in the sanctity of treaties; but about this particular item, where justice lies, how it was incurred originally, what it all means between these two countries—I don't know enough about it to comment.

Q. Raymond P. Brandt, *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*: Mr. President, it has been said that the steel price settlement is the start of creeping inflation. Does the steel price rise jeopardize your administration's effort to stabilize the dollar?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I think, Mr. Brandt, that "jeopardize" is probably a little strong word. But every time you see a price rise of this kind in such a basic commodity, as is steel, it has a certain amount of influence. How much of that can be absorbed in the processing of steel and by the various companies that have made profits and by a greater degree of efficiency or automation,

I don't know. But it is certainly one of the things that holds up a danger sign, and we watch it very closely every day.

Q. Mr. Brandt: Can you do anything about it, sir, in the Government by discount rates or anything?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, not at this moment on that basis, I should think.

Q. J. Anthony Lewis, New York Times: Mr. President, Congress did not approve your request that it authorize a bipartisan civil rights commission. I wonder whether you now have any plans to act on your own and appoint such a commission, sir.

THE PRESIDENT. Not at this moment.

Q. Robert W. Richards, Copley Newspapers: Mr. President, there has been some confusion since your remarks about John Sherman Cooper on just exactly what you meant. You are happy he is running for the Senate from Kentucky, are you not?

THE PRESIDENT. Oh, indeed I am. I said so. I said that he had made a very fine ambassador and I hated to lose him, but that I was informed that his running in Kentucky would strengthen the ticket, and I was highly pleased. I am very, very much pleased at his running.

Q. Mr. Richards: Another question, Mr. President. There have also been some charges and countercharges between the parties about your school construction bill. I understand the Democrats accuse the administration of having sabotaged its own bill. Would you like to comment on that, sir?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, we will have to get one thing straight. I recommended a particular bill, of which two of the primary features were these: (a) that money, school money, be allocated on the basis of need; and (b) that all of the Federal school construction be in addition to the current State programs and would not merely supplant, because our object was to get more schools and not merely to substitute Federal money for State money already appropriated or authorized.

Now, when that bill was placed before the House in the form of a recommittal motion, the Republicans voted for it, three-

quarters of them—I forget the exact thing, something like 147 to 49, something of that order.

When these features were active, then they had with that particular bill I think just a sprinkling, maybe 2, a small percentage of Democrats, 3 or 4 percent. When those features were taken out, then is when the Republicans did vote against the bill. But so did a lot of the Democrats. They not only killed my bill but they helped to kill their own.

Q. Robert L. Riggs, Louisville Courier-Journal: I think the confusion which Richards referred to on Ambassador Cooper was the extent, how much you urged him to run or whether you merely gave your approval. The question was, did you urge him to run?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I have never urged anyone to run for political office. I don't conceive that to be my task.

What I do is to try to lay out in front of certain of these people how important I believe it to be for the advancement of certain principles in which I believe, and I try to lay out both sides of the question, and of course I am hopeful, as I was in this case, that his decision would be on the side of running. It was, and, as I say, I was highly pleased. But I never urge anyone to run for political office. Possibly this is because I had enough of that in reverse a long time ago. [*Laughter*]

Q. Marvin L. Arrowsmith, Associated Press: Mr. President, you spoke last week of your interest in rebuilding the Republican Party. You have discussed that subject before, but I wonder whether you could tell us at this point shortly before the conventions, something of the changes you would like to see in the party.

THE PRESIDENT. Well, Mr. Arrowsmith, you have opened up such a vast subject that I think it would take the rest of the period to talk about it in detail. I really believe it is something that we have to wait and let it come out in the Republican platform. I am certain the Republican platform will reflect what I believe to be those principles, policies, and programs

which will represent some reorientation, and what I would call looking toward a rebuilding of its strength and vigor.

Q. Chalmers M. Roberts, Washington Post and Times Herald: Mr. President, do you believe, sir, that the Republican Party plank on civil rights should contain a specific endorsement of the Supreme Court decision voiding segregation in the public schools?

THE PRESIDENT. I don't know, Mr. Roberts, how the Republican plank on this particular point is going to be stated, and I haven't given any thought of my own as to whether it should just state it in that way.

The only thing I can say is, I am sworn to uphold the Constitution of the United States; but what we are talking about, probably, is procedures rather than principles. Everybody knows I am sworn to uphold the Constitution of the United States. That is my job.

Q. Fred W. Perkins, Scripps-Howard: Could you give the subject of recent frequent calls on you by the Under Secretary of Labor, Mr. Arthur Larson?

THE PRESIDENT. Can I give what?

Q. Mr. Perkins: —the subject of calls on you recently, several calls by the Under Secretary of Labor, Mr. Larson?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I could, but I don't think I will. [*Laughter*]

After all, he is one of my assistants, and if I want to talk with him, why, he comes in. I think that it would be rather odd for me to begin discussing publicly the subjects that I take up with my various staff when they come to see me.

Q. Edwin L. Dale, Jr., New York Times: Mr. President, last week you spoke of the long-term trend in the world towards modern weapons with a concomitant possible reduction in manpower, and that is still a very live subject within the Government. I wish you would comment, sir, on the possible impact of such a trend on our forces abroad, and particularly in Europe.

THE PRESIDENT. Well, you wouldn't expect me to comment in detail. It has been a good many months since I left Europe.

I have scheduled now a tentative conference with General Gruenther to see exactly what his thinking is on the matter.

This is what I believe: there is a streamlining coming about. I don't believe in talking of reduction because when you are talking about defense forces you are talking about their power, their effectiveness, their capability.

The mere fact that now one man can shoot a machine gun at the rate of 700 rounds a minute—it used to take in the flintlock days about 1400 men to get off that many shots—it doesn't mean you have had any reduction of power because you have one man shooting them instead of 1400, does it?

Well, now, that is the kind of thing that we ought to apply intelligently as we go along. Otherwise, we are being stupid, as I see it. I like to keep in touch with those matters all the time, and that is the way I approach them.

Q. Sarah McClendon, Waco News Tribune: Mr. President, you said yesterday in your message on the Poage watershed bill that you were more in favor of a partnership philosophy on paying for flood control, and you thought this bill was taking somewhat of a backward step, and that you would recommend to the Congress when it is next in session that there be a change. Does this mean that you are quite confident that you will be the one to lead the country in the next Congress?

THE PRESIDENT. The Congress comes into session on January 3d so I will still be here until January 20th. [*Laughter*]

Q. Don Shannon, Los Angeles Times: Mr. President, yesterday Secretary Wilson said that he had been presented with a budget for fiscal '58 of \$48 billion, and he said he turned that one back immediately—these were advance estimates. But he did say that he thought it was going to cost more in fiscal '58 than it does in fiscal '57, even though—as you—he says that there is going to be a reduction in manpower. Do you agree with that?

THE PRESIDENT. Forty-eight billion dollars is no budget. This is just a collection of unilateral estimates of what people would like to have. You go through this every year. Everybody gets

all enthused that this is a fine year to put in for a lot of money, and they do, and you have to trim and work to get down to a reasonable sum.

But I wouldn't be surprised that the actual yearly expenditures—I think I said this before, before this body—the actual yearly expenditures for the maintenance of what we have already authorized and programed are going to go up, there is no doubt about it in the world.

Q. Ruth S. Montgomery, International News Service: Mr. President, it is well known that at one time you could also have had the nomination on the Democratic ticket. Was this a question of sort of marrying a man to reform him, or why did you choose the Republican Party then? [*Laughter*]

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I thought I had gone into that in the past in great detail.

Frankly, I very definitely thought that after one party had been in Washington 20 years, that there invariably would grow up some abuses that that party was really incapable of straightening out, because there were too many things going on that were the particular pets of the people in power. I thought that change was needed if we were going to get the clean-cut type of cleaning out that seemed necessary to me. That is one of the reasons, and I think a very powerful one.

Q. S. Douglass Cater, Jr., Reporter Magazine: In a recent book which we all read, I believe there was a report that you at one time considered the formation of a third party. I wonder if you could mention whether you did consider that, and what was the reason for your decision?

THE PRESIDENT. I don't know the book you are referring to. [*Laughter*]

But I will tell you this—what is his name, who used to be the Governor of Connecticut?—Chester Bowles. Chester Bowles has just written a new book in which there is much with which I disagreed, probably, but he brings out one thought: that finally there comes about in American history what he calls a consensus

of opinion. Problems evolve, and he brings out the ones of the past.

He relates them, started by Jefferson, by Lincoln, and by the second Roosevelt. He believes that the great mass of public opinion begins to support this ideal, and when that happens, there is not necessarily a third party of changes, but there is a shift in allegiance, so that the party that best upholds that viewpoint, that agrees with that consensus, remains in a dominating position for some years until another change comes along where the party in power is probably too complacent to seize the opportunity. I think there is a lot of meat in what he wrote about that.

Q. John Scali, Associated Press: Mr. President, if I may return to Suez for a moment, sir, there have been reports that Egypt may refer the Suez problem to the United Nations. Would you regard United Nations consideration of the Suez matter as an acceptable substitute or supplementary action to the scheduled London meeting?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, of course you always have the veto in the United Nations. Here was a matter that seemed to demand not a hurried solution but a prompt one; and I think to get the nations who, by their maritime activities and by the character of their economies, were most interested, to get them together was a better method at the moment.

The trouble with the other one would be, I think, its slowness.

Q. Garnett D. Horner, Washington Star: Mr. President, can you tell us anything now about your vacation plans after the convention this summer?

THE PRESIDENT. As of now I hope to go out to the convention—of course I am assuming that I am going to be important to them—for the last day. If I do that, I would hope to stay out there in that region maybe 3 or 4 days. I have no other vacation plans for the summer.

Q. Thomas N. Schroth, Congressional Quarterly: Mr. President, as the school year approaches, it becomes apparent that

some States are not proceeding with deliberate speed to carry out the Supreme Court decision to desegregate schools. Does your administration have any plans to enforce that decision this fall?

THE PRESIDENT. I believe the Supreme Court decision stated that the cases must come before the local Federal district judges, isn't that correct? That is where there must be first jurisdiction; their whole plan was that local conditions would be taken into consideration, because some States can unquestionably begin to make this change earlier, more efficiently, than others. Let's never forget this—I have said this before, I know: from 1896 to 1954 the school pattern of the South was built up in what they thought was absolute accordance with the law, with the Constitution of the United States, because that's what the decision was, that equal but separate ruling.

As I have always believed, we have got to make certain reforms by education. No matter how much law we have, we have a job in education, in getting people to understand what are the issues here involved. I think that is the reason for the Supreme Court's reluctance just to issue an order for compliance, but instead created this term of "deliberate speed" and put the jurisdiction before the district courts.

Now, I think that these district courts will have to take some cognizance, if there is no action taken at all in their areas.

Q. J. William Theis, International News Service: Mr. President, some Republicans, I believe, have read different meanings into what they said last week about the Stassen-Nixon-Herter affair. I wondered if for the record you would care to add or detract anything from what you said a week ago on the situation.

THE PRESIDENT. If I didn't make myself clear on the subject you mentioned, and on my health, I am never going to be able to do it, and those subjects I don't intend to discuss again. With respect to the second one, a question here I have raised myself, I believe I did promise this: that at an appropriate time later this year, but certainly before the election, I will have another

complete examination to determine that there has been no change in my situation, I believe I said it this way: if at any time I have any reason to believe that I am not fit as I believe myself to be now, I will come before the American public and tell them.

Q. Peter Lisagor, *Chicago Daily News*: Chester Bowles is regarded as a theoretician of the Democratic Party. I wonder if you realize that.

THE PRESIDENT. Yes. I have never said that any group in the world cannot produce some good ideas. [*Laughter*]

Q. Kenneth M. Scheibel, *Gannett Newspapers*: Mr. President, when you vetoed the farm bill, the first farm bill in April, you increased some of the supports for wheat and corn and the other commodities. Would you tell us whether you have abandoned your flexible program permanently, or was that a 1-year suspension?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I didn't abandon it then. I was applying the theory of the flexible price support. I didn't put them back up to go, but by no means have I abandoned the flexible price support theory, and I believe as the soil bank comes into operation more effectively, it will operate more distinctly.

Q. Mr. Scheibel: Well, will those prices come down?

THE PRESIDENT. What's that?

Q. Mr. Scheibel: Will those prices next year, that you raised, will they come down?

THE PRESIDENT. I don't know what they will be next year.

Q. Paul Scott Rankine, *Reuters*: Mr. President, your earlier remarks on the Suez Canal might be interpreted as meaning that you were opposed to the use of military force under any circumstances——

THE PRESIDENT. I didn't say that. I was very careful not to say that. I said every important question in the world in which more than one nation is interested should be settled by negotiation. We have tried to substitute the conference table for the battlefield.

I don't mean to say that anyone has to surrender rights without using everything they can to preserve their rights.

Q. Mr. Rankine: The question I was going to ask, sir, was, did you think that the military precautions now being taken by Britain and France in the Mediterranean and presumably by the United States 6th Fleet are justified in a defensive sense?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I am not going to comment on that.

Q. Clark R. Mollenhoff, Des Moines Register: Mr. President, the Democrats seem to be firing at your farm program more than anything else just in the last few days, and Claude Wickard has charged that the soil bank program was a brazen attempt to buy the farm votes. I wonder if you would comment on the general attack——

THE PRESIDENT. You mean I got that kind of a charge from *them*?

Q. Mr. Mollenhoff: Yes.

I wondered if you would comment on the farm situation generally, and the farm political situation, and whether you think it is going to be necessary for you to make personal appearances in the Midwest.

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I will talk a little bit about the farm situation and the farm law. The payments made under the soil bank program are as directed by the law. The pity of it as I see it is that the bill wasn't passed much earlier, because by this time we could have 30 or 40 million acres withdrawn from production instead of the 10 million we will probably have for this year.

Now, as for the political situation in the farm areas, no, I haven't anything to say.

Louis Cassels, United Press: Thank you, Mr. President.

NOTE: President Eisenhower's ninety-first news conference was held in the Executive Office Building from 10:32 to 10:57 o'clock on Wednesday morning, August 8, 1956. In attendance: 207.

172 ¶ Statement by the President Upon Signing
the American Samoa Labor Standards
Amendments of 1956. *August 8, 1956*

I HAVE TODAY signed S. 3956, the "American Samoa Labor Standards Amendments of 1956" because I am convinced that some adjustment of the existing provisions of the Fair Labor Standards Act to the Samoan economy is needed.

The bill is, however, defective in the manner in which it provides for the fixing of minimum wages. Under the bill, minimum wages are to be set by industry committees, representing the affected groups, without any review by the Government officials responsible for the administration of the statute. Such provisions are unsound, and it is my earnest hope that the Congress at its next session will amend the Fair Labor Standards Act to provide for review by the Secretary of Labor of determinations of industry committees.

NOTE: As enacted, S. 3956 is Public Law 1023, 84th Congress (70 Stat. 1118).

173 ¶ Statement by the President Upon Signing
the Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956.
August 8, 1956

I HAVE SIGNED S. 3275, the Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956. In signing this bill, I do not regard as a directive the provisions of section 8 which relate to United States representation at international conferences and negotiations concerning fish and wildlife matters. If they were to be so construed they would, in my judgment, be unconstitutional as limitations on the authority of the President of the United States to conduct negotiations with other governments through agents designated by him or at his direction. Accordingly, I regard these provisions as merely an

indication of the desire of the Congress that the resources of the Interior Department be utilized in the formulation of United States policies affecting fish and wildlife matters, which of course I fully share and which is and has been my policy.

NOTE: As enacted, S. 3275 is Public Law 1024, 84th Congress (70 Stat. 1119).

174 ¶ Statement by the President Upon Signing
Bill Relating to Suits by Automobile Dealers
Against Manufacturers. *August 8, 1956*

I HAVE TODAY signed S. 3879. The bill enables franchised automobile dealers to sue in Federal Court for damages stemming from automobile manufacturers' "coercion, intimidation, or threats of" same in performing, cancelling, or not renewing dealer franchise contracts.

The Senate Judiciary Committee, in explanation of the purpose of the legislation, unanimously found

"... that great pressure had been exerted, at least by the dominant automobile manufacturers, upon dealers to accept automobiles, parts, accessories, and supplies which they did not need, did not want, or did not feel their market was able to absorb. Many dealer witnesses asserted that while they were ostensibly independent businessmen, the factory dominated and controlled almost every phase of their operations at all times. . . . This vast disparity in economic power and bargaining strength has enabled the factory to determine arbitrarily the rules by which the two parties conduct their business affairs."

The legislation represents a serious Congressional effort to deal with abuses Congress found to exist. At best I believe it constitutes only a partial solution to the problem. In addition, it presents legal problems, some of which could be of the most serious character.

Ordinarily when parties enter into a business agreement outside the realm of public utilities, legislative action which qualifies their rights to terminate or renew the agreement in the manner provided by this legislation would be considered an unwarranted intrusion by the Federal Government into an area traditionally reserved to private enterprise. Therefore, this bill represents a new departure in the exercise of Federal authority, a point which will undoubtedly come to the attention of the courts. However, in view of the findings of Congress on the special conditions in the automobile industry, which may be of a temporary nature, I am approving the bill. At the same time I am directing the anti-trust enforcement agencies of the Government to review the conditions in the industry which brought about the demand for the legislation, to determine whether they continue to exist, to study alternative or different solutions to the problem, and to make recommendations for appropriate action by the next Congress.

NOTE: As enacted, S. 3879 is Public Law 1026, 84th Congress (70 Stat. 1125).

175 ¶ Memorandum of Disapproval of Joint Resolution Setting Date of Meeting of the 85th Congress. *August 8, 1956*

ON RECOMMENDATION of the majority and minority leadership of both the Senate and House of Representatives, I am withholding my approval of S. J. Res. 203, fixing the date of meeting of the Eighty-fifth Congress. January 7, 1957, the date fixed in the resolution, is the date prescribed by law for the counting of the electoral votes for President and Vice President. I am informed that the Congress cannot conveniently count those votes on the same day that it assembles.

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

176 ¶ Letter to Arthur F. Burns, Chairman,
Council of Economic Advisers, Concerning Report
of Cabinet Committee on Small Business.

August 9, 1956

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I was particularly pleased to receive and read the Progress Report of the Cabinet Committee on Small Business which you and your colleagues have been working on for many weeks.

This Administration is engaged in a continuing effort to ensure that the American economy is based on a strong, broad foundation of healthy free enterprises—small and large. The first Progress Report of the Cabinet Committee on Small Business is a further forward step in this effort.

The scope of the Report's analysis and recommendations demonstrates that no constructive potential avenue of improvement—either legislative or executive—is being overlooked in our search to widen the opportunities for small businesses in America.

We must continue to strive to eliminate obstacles hindering the growth of small businesses. I also firmly believe that uneconomic or sweeping nostrums have no place in this Administration's program; such measures usually help no one and eventually injure all. I am glad to see that the Committee emphasizes the importance of maintaining competition and of continued vigilance against any outcroppings of monopoly; also that the Committee's report recognizes the need of preserving and increasing efficiency in business, and that it has focused on positive measures to help small businesses get started and grow.

I want to assure you that I shall give the recommendations of the Committee the prompt and favorable consideration they deserve—both in preparing for executive action and in drawing up the Administration's legislative program for the new Congress. I shall ask the departments principally concerned to advise me further.

I wish to thank you and your Cabinet colleagues for this forward-looking and useful progress report, and I urge the Committee to continue its studies of small business problems and to keep its findings current in order that no opportunity will be neglected to strengthen this vital segment of the American economy.

Sincerely,

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

NOTE: The report, dated August 7, 1956, is entitled "Progress Report by the Cabinet Committee on Small Business" (Government Printing Office, 1956).

177 ¶ Memorandum of Disapproval of Bill
Permitting Increased Water Diversion From Lake
Michigan. *August 9, 1956*

I HAVE WITHHELD my approval of H. R. 3210, "To authorize the State of Illinois and the Sanitary District of Chicago, under the direction of the Secretary of the Army, to test, on a three-year basis, the effect of increasing the diversion of water from Lake Michigan into the Illinois Waterway, and for other purposes."

This bill is substantially the same in purpose and effect as H. R. 3300 of the 83d Congress from which I also withheld my approval in that it would authorize the State of Illinois and the Sanitary District of Chicago to increase from 1,500 to 2,500 cubic feet per second the diversion of water from Lake Michigan to the Illinois Waterway for a period of three years. H. R. 3210 would also direct the Secretary of the Army to make a study with respect to the effect of the diversion and to make recommendations regarding its continuance. While certain conditions and limitations are imposed that were not in the earlier bill these

do not deal with the fundamental reasons for my withholding approval of that measure.

In my memorandum of disapproval of H. R. 3300 I stated, among other things,

"I am unable to approve the bill because . . . (2) all methods of control of Lake levels and protection of property on the Great Lakes should be considered before arbitrarily proceeding with the proposed increased diversion, (3) the diversions are authorized without reference to negotiations with Canada, and (4) the legitimate interests of other States affected by the diversion may be adversely affected. . . ."

A comprehensive report by the Corps of Engineers which will include consideration of the best methods of obtaining improved control of the levels of the Great Lakes and of preventing recurrence of damage along the shores is nearing completion. I am asking the Secretary of Defense to expedite completion of this report. This report is in addition to the technical report on the effects of an increased diversion into the Illinois Waterway which has been made by the Joint Lake Ontario Engineering Board to the International Joint Commission. I think it would be unwise to proceed with the diversion in the manner proposed in H. R. 3210 until all relevant information has been obtained, particularly since objections to the proposed diversion have been registered by the Canadian Government in its note dated February 13, 1956, and additional objections filed by legal advisers of the States of Wisconsin, Ohio, and New York.

Although I am fully aware of the seriousness of some of the problems confronting the Chicago area and the State of Illinois, the record on H. R. 3210 affords no basis for me to change my position in this matter. Accordingly, under the circumstances, I am convinced that the bill should not be approved.

I am asking the State Department to engage in discussions with the Canadian Government in an attempt to work out a solution to these problems as soon as all pertinent facts are available.

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

178 ¶ Memorandum of Disapproval of Bill
Relating to Rates Charged by the Southwestern
Power Administration. *August 9, 1956*

I HAVE WITHHELD my approval of S. 3338, an act "Relating to rates charged for electric power and energy marketed by the Southwestern Power Administration, and for other purposes."

The only purpose which this legislation could accomplish would be to prevent the Secretary of the Interior from fulfilling the obligations imposed upon him by Section 5 of the Flood Control Act of 1944, to establish rate schedules which will return sufficient revenue to amortize the investment in Federal multiple-purpose projects allocated to power, and to pay the necessary costs incurred in operating and maintaining power projects. By its terms, S. 3338 grants a legislative moratorium which prevents any rate increases for power sold by the Southwestern Power Administration to any public body or cooperative until June 30, 1957. This would result in a loss of \$2,167,000 revenue during the present fiscal year.

Sound management requires that the Federal Government fix rates for electric energy and power from Federal projects which will return the taxpayers' investment, with interest, within a reasonable period of time. Revenues from power sales by the Southwestern Power Administration in 1955 were not sufficient to pay even the interest on the portion of construction costs allocated to power. Furthermore, these revenues have been insufficient to provide any return of the capital investment in power facilities since 1953. Enactment of the bill will prevent the establishment of compensatory rates until July 1, 1957.

Fears have been expressed that the increased rates, which I am informed amount to approximately 40 cents per month for the average rural customer, proposed by the Department of the Interior will force upon preference customers—public agencies and cooperatives—the burden of absorbing the deficit in power

revenues brought about by the delivery of power to a non-preference customer under a 1952, 30-year contract at unrealistically low unit rates. However, the fact is that under the proposed schedule of rates, these preference customers will pay for power at rates determined upon the assumption that all power users must pay the rate necessary to retire the capital investment allocated to power on these multiple-purpose projects. The preference customers will not pay any of the deficit resulting, during the repayment period, from the 30-year contract.

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

179 ¶ Memorandum of Disapproval of Bill for
the Validation of Certain Mining Claims in
Wyoming. *August 9, 1956*

I AM WITHHOLDING my approval of S. 3941, an act "To provide for the validation of certain mining claims owned by Arthur W. Hyde, John H. Gossett, Clyne A. Bailey, and Manuel Silva, all of the State of New Mexico, and Thelma Arndt, Wallace (or Wally) Lawson, Richard L. (or R. L.) Greene, Elden F. Keith, Zola Keith, Leon Keith, Lee E. Keith, Robert Arndt, Rose Greene, Ferne Cressy, Marjorie Lawson, and Frank Cressy, all of the State of Wyoming."

S. 3941 provides an additional period of time for the validation of mining claims held by certain specified persons in New Mexico and Wyoming which could have been validated under the Act of August 12, 1953, but which were not validated thereunder solely because of the failure of the holders of the claims to take the necessary steps.

This bill was originally introduced as a general measure, but, after the Department of the Interior recommended that it not be enacted, it was amended so as to be a private relief bill. This was done because the Department of the Interior pointed out

that S. 3941 was really of the nature of a private bill, and that, if the bill were amended along such lines, reasons justifying the special treatment of the specific claimants might, perhaps, be produced. Justification for such unusual treatment has not been shown. The twelve persons named in the bill as having claims in Wyoming justify their failure to validate their claims under the Act of August 12, 1953, on the grounds that a search of the records at a land office failed to show the existence of an oil and gas lease at the time of the location of their claims. However, a more diligent search of those records subsequently revealed the existence of an oil and gas lease. One of the persons named in the bill as having a claim in New Mexico based his right upon the fact that a search of the records at a land office failed to show the existence of an oil and gas lease because there had been a delay in making entries in the land office records. There was no evidence that the claimant had taken all possible steps to ascertain the existence of an oil and gas lease. The information on the other three claims is limited.

Under the circumstances, I have no recourse but to withhold my approval of S. 3941. To approve S. 3941 would, I believe, establish an undesirable precedent, encouraging others to seek relief from laws of general applicability on expired mining claims.

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

180 ¶ Memorandum of Disapproval of Bill
Authorizing Navigation, Shore Protection, and
Flood Control Projects. *August 10, 1956*

I HAVE WITHHELD my approval of H. R. 12080, which would authorize appropriations totalling about \$1.6 billion for 99 projects or project modifications and 14 river basin authorizations involving improvements for navigation, shore protection,

flood control and related purposes. I regret that this action is necessary, because I believe that the periodic enactment of river and harbor and flood control legislation is an important step in the formulation of a sound Federal program for the wise development of the Nation's water resources.

This bill does not appropriate funds. It only authorizes certain projects or project-modifications so that the next Congress can consider them for appropriation. So my action on the bill need cause no delay in starting the many worthwhile projects in the bill.

While the majority of the projects which this bill would authorize have been given adequate study and review within the executive branch and by the affected States, there are still a large number which have not been reviewed in accordance with the orderly procedures set forth in the applicable laws. Therefore, it is not possible at this time for me to determine whether their authorization would be in the public interest. Still others have after review been found not to be in the public interest.

Existing law requires that before a report of the Chief of Engineers recommending authorization of a project is submitted to the Congress the affected States be afforded an opportunity to comment on the proposal. In addition, procedures for review consistent with other statutory requirements have been established under Executive Order 9384. These procedures provide for review of project reports within the executive branch before they are submitted to the Congress. For 32 of the projects which the bill would authorize, involving financial commitments of over \$530 million, all of these requirements have not been met. Without such review the Congress must necessarily have acted on the basis of incomplete information. Some of these projects have not even been studied and reported on by the Chief of Engineers, and in a few cases field studies have not yet been completed.

Section 202 of the River and Harbor and Flood Control Act of 1954 declares it to be the policy of Congress that:

"No project or any modification not authorized, of a project

for flood control or rivers and harbors, shall be authorized by the Congress unless a report for such project or modification has been previously submitted by the Chief of Engineers, United States Army, in conformity with existing law.”

I regard this as being a wise policy, and I believe that it is very unfortunate that this traditional statement was not followed in H. R. 12080.

In various messages to the Congress, I have clearly stated my view that our vital water resources can best be conserved and utilized in the public interest if the Federal Government co-operates with State and local governments and with private interests in the development of those resources, and does not undertake such development as though it were a matter of exclusive Federal interest. In order to carry out such a policy, properly and effectively, it is necessary that the views of affected States be given adequate consideration in formulating proposals for water resources projects. This has not been accomplished for a number of projects included in this bill.

In addition, other projects in this bill would be authorized on a basis which would result in a lesser degree of local participation than was agreed to by the local interests and recommended by the executive branch. I believe that authorization of water resources projects on such terms would represent a serious backward step in the desirable development of the Nation's water resources, and would result in the loss of the best test yet devised for insuring that a project is sound—the willingness of local people to invest their own money in a joint enterprise with the Federal Government.

In the weeks before the Congress convenes a careful, orderly review will be undertaken of those projects and other provisions of the bill which have not been fully studied or reviewed at the present time. This should enable the Congress to base its action on a full knowledge of all the facts involved. I believe that the people of the United States are entitled to expect that these pro-

cedures will be followed before new water resources projects, involving large future financial commitments, are authorized in law.

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

181 ¶ Memorandum of Disapproval of Bill
Extending Credit for Certain Taxes Imposed by the
United Kingdom. *August 10, 1956*

I AM WITHHOLDING my approval of H. R. 7643, "An Act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1939 and the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 with respect to foreign tax credit for United Kingdom income tax paid with respect to royalties and other like amounts." This bill would extend to firms with a permanent establishment in the United Kingdom that receive royalties there a credit for taxes imposed by the United Kingdom on the payor of the royalties. This provision would be retroactive to 1950.

Under the income tax convention with the United Kingdom royalties received by a United States licensor are not subject to tax in the United Kingdom if the recipient has no permanent establishment there. If it does have a permanent establishment, the royalty is subject to British taxation. The American recipient reports the net amount of royalties from British sources and receives no United States tax credit for the British tax paid. This treatment under United States law arises from two court decisions (*Trico Products Corp.*, 46 BTA 346, affirmed 137 F. (2d) 424, cert. den. 320 U. S. 799, reh. den. 321 U. S. 801; *Irving Air Chute Co. Inc.*, 1 T. C. 880, affirmed 143 F. (2d) 256, cert. den. 323 U. S. 773).

The combined effect of the United States income tax law and the income tax convention with the United Kingdom is to produce a different combination of British and United States taxes

on the royalties paid some American recipients than on others. However, the United States tax law is not the cause of this difference in treatment. It is caused by the provisions in the convention itself. The appropriate way to correct the situation would be modification of the convention. The Treasury Department currently is conducting discussions on the convention with the British and will add this problem to the agenda.

The present status of royalty payments from the United Kingdom to the United States has been well known to interested parties at least since the convention was adopted in 1945. Many arrangements between licensees and licensors have reflected existing law and the burden of British tax may not rest on United States licensors in such cases. Consequently, to allow the British tax as a credit against the United States tax on a retroactive basis would give a windfall gain to some American licensors.

The proposed change would single out for special relief a small group of taxpayers whose need for relief has not been demonstrated. Tax relief should not be given in this way.

For these reasons, I am constrained to withhold my approval of the bill.

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

182 ¶ Memorandum of Disapproval of Bills
Creating Commissions for the Construction of Ohio
River Bridges. *August 10, 1956*

I AM WITHHOLDING my approval from H. R. 10468 and H. R. 10662, bills creating the City of Lawrenceburg Bridge Commission and the City of Cannelton Bridge Commission, respectively. The City of Lawrenceburg Bridge Commission would be authorized to construct, maintain and operate a bridge across the Ohio River at or near Lawrenceburg, Indiana, and Boone County, Kentucky, and to purchase and operate a ferry

at this location. The City of Cannelton Bridge Commission would be granted comparable authority with respect to a bridge and a ferry at or near Cannelton, Indiana, and Hawesville, Kentucky.

On July 26, 1956, I approved H. R. 11010, creating a Muscatine Bridge Commission and authorizing it to perform functions similar to those contemplated by H. R. 10468 and H. R. 10662. At that time, I indicated that I would not be inclined to approve the creation of bridge commissions of the type contemplated by that bill in the absence of special emergency circumstances. Because the City of Muscatine, Iowa, and the town of Drury, Illinois, were confronted with a serious disruption of traffic as a result of the collapse of the center span of an existing bridge, and because it appeared that a bridge commission could most quickly undertake the construction of a new bridge, I signed the bill.

I am unaware of any circumstances which would make the provision of bridges at Lawrenceburg and Cannelton so urgent as to justify special Federal legislation creating additional bridge commissions. The construction and operation of interstate bridges, as I stated on July 26, has traditionally been a State rather than a Federal responsibility. The General Bridge Act of 1946 facilitated State action by granting blanket authority for the construction of bridges over navigable streams without the enactment of special authorizing legislation. In those cases in which the States choose to create special interstate agencies to build, maintain and operate toll bridges, they may do so at any time through the negotiation of suitable interstate compacts. I am, therefore, unwilling, under ordinary circumstances, to have the Federal Government take away from the States and their highway agencies the responsibility for providing bridges of concern primarily to the residents of the immediate area to be served.

Bridge commissions of the type provided for by these bills also give rise to serious legal and administrative problems. Because they owe their creation and all of their powers to acts of Congress they cannot be State or local agencies. Yet they are not

considered to be instrumentalities of the Federal Government. One result of this uncertainty is the lack of adequate provisions for supervising the activities of bridge commissions in the public interest. No State or Federal official or agency is empowered to see to it that the commissions proposed by H. R. 10468 and H. R. 10662 carry out their responsibilities in a faithful and efficient manner.

This lack of supervision can lead to serious mismanagement and injury to the public interest, as was recently disclosed by a Congressional investigation of the affairs of the White County Bridge Commission. That investigation documented questionable expenditures of many thousands of dollars and led a Select Committee of the House of Representatives to propose drastic measures to prevent future abuses.

I, therefore, suggest that if the States of Indiana and Kentucky determine that these two bridges are needed, they enter into appropriate agreements to proceed with construction under the authority conferred by the General Bridge Act.

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

183 ¶ Memorandum of Disapproval of Bill Providing a Special Method of Taxation of Real Estate Investment Trusts. *August 10, 1956*

I AM WITHHOLDING my approval from H. R. 4392, entitled "An Act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 to provide a special method of taxation for real estate investment trusts."

Under existing law, real estate trusts and associations with transferable shares are generally taxed as ordinary corporations on their entire taxable income. The enrolled bill would extend to such organizations, under certain conditions, the "conduit" or "pass-through" method of taxation which present law pro-

vides for regulated investment companies. The effect would be to exclude from the corporate tax all but a small margin of retained earnings of real estate trusts.

While the bill assumes a similarity between real estate trusts and regulated investment companies, there are important differences between the two situations. The income of regulated investment companies is generally derived from the securities of corporations which are fully subject to the corporate income tax. In the case of regulated investment companies, therefore, the conduit treatment merely avoids an additional level of corporate taxation, which for dividend income consists of the tax on the portion of dividends remaining after the 85 percent inter-corporate dividends deduction. By contrast, the conduit treatment proposed for real estate trusts would entirely remove the corporate income tax from much of the income originating in their real estate operations.

It is by no means clear how far a new provision of this sort might be applied. Though intended to be applicable only to a small number of trusts, it could, and might well become, available to many real estate companies which were originally organized and have always carried on their activities as fully taxable corporations.

For these reasons, I am constrained to withhold my approval of the bill.

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

184 ¶ White House Statement Concerning
Bipartisan Meeting on the Suez Canal.

August 12, 1956

PRESIDENT EISENHOWER met today with the bipartisan Congressional leadership for the purpose of reviewing the Suez Canal situation. The meeting was attended by the Vice Presi-

dent; Secretary of State Dulles; Arthur Flemming, Director of the Office of Defense Mobilization; Admiral Radford, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff; Gordon Gray, Assistant Secretary of Defense for International Security Affairs; and the following Senators and Representatives:

Senate

Democrats

Senator Lyndon Johnson
Senator Earle C. Clements
Senator Walter F. George
Senator Theodore Francis Green
Senator Richard B. Russell

House

Democrats

Speaker Sam Rayburn
Congressman Carl Albert
Congressman Thos. E. Morgan
Congressman A. S. J. Carnahan

Senate

Republicans

Senator William F. Knowland
Senator Styles Bridges
Senator Eugene D. Millikin
Senator Leverett Saltonstall
Senator Alexander Wiley
Senator H. Alexander Smith

House

Republicans

Congressman Joseph W. Martin, Jr.
Congressman Charles Halleck
Congressman Leslie C. Arends
Congressman Leo Allen
Congressman Robert B. Chipfield
Congressman John M. Vorys
Congressman Dewey Short

The President expressed his appreciation for the attendance, at considerable inconvenience, of the Members of Congress present. He said he considered their attendance as important in view of the London Conference on the Suez matter, scheduled to be convened on August 16th with the United States as a participant.

The President and the Secretary of State then reviewed the situation and the actions taken thus far by the United States to deal with it, and the preparations for the London Conference. Mr. Flemming described the bearing of possible events in the Middle East upon the petroleum situation.

The President and the Secretary of State pointed out that in view of the acceptance by 22 of the 24 nations invited, the Conference will offer the opportunity for reaching a peaceful and

equitable solution, in accordance with the concepts of the 1888 governing Treaty.

They made clear that the United States will attend with the purpose of contributing to such a solution with the objective of safeguarding the interests of those dependent on the Canal as well as recognizing the legitimate interests of Egypt. We are hopeful of such an outcome.

They stressed, however, the continuing gravity of the situation and the difficulty in achieving a constructive solution.

There was a general, vigorous discussion. All recognized the importance of dependable operation of the Canal as a major artery of world traffic.

185 ¶ Memorandum on United Fund and Community Chest Campaigns. *August 14, 1956*

Memorandum for the Heads of All Executive Departments and Agencies:

This Fall more than 2,000 United Funds and Community Chests will make their appeals for the support of over 23,000 health, welfare and recreation organizations. Many of these campaigns will include the needs of such national agencies as the Red Cross, USO and those fighting the dread diseases and other health problems. These united community campaigns will be seeking to raise more than \$340,000,000.

This largest of all voluntary fund-raising appeals represents a total that is more than the amount raised by all other health and welfare appeals combined. Their campaigns will be conducted, as in past years, among federal, civilian and military personnel during the months of September, October and November.

To assure the leaders of United Community Campaigns of America, representing local Community Chests and United

Funds, of the cooperation of the Federal Government, I have approved the appointment of the Honorable George M. Humphrey, Secretary of the Treasury, as Vice Chairman for the Federal Government of United Community Campaigns.

In the spirit of true voluntary giving I am confident that you will extend the full cooperation of your Department in each community throughout the United States and its territories and possessions where it conducts its operations. Such cooperation should, under the new uniform Federal policy on fund raising, include the effective solicitation of all employees, the acceptance of equitable unit goals, and the setting up of an adequate collection method for the convenience of those who wish to make contributions on an installment basis.

We who work in the Government want to assume our full citizen's share of voluntary support of the many worthwhile private health and welfare organizations. The United Fund and Community Chest campaigns provide us with an opportunity for supporting a wide variety and a large number of organizations through a single appeal.

It is my hope that all employees will give thoughtfully and generously to these campaigns.

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

186 ¶ Statement by the President in Response to a Progress Report on Highways by the Secretary of Commerce. *August 16, 1956*

I HAVE RECEIVED a progress report on highways from Sinclair Weeks, Secretary of Commerce.

I am pleased to learn that general programming of Interstate System projects since the Federal-Aid Highway Act of 1956 became law now exceeds \$800 million.

The States have already been authorized to proceed with

advertising for bids on Interstate System projects costing over \$36 million since the new highway legislation was approved on June 29.

One State, Missouri, has already awarded contracts totaling nearly \$4 million for Interstate System improvements, utilizing both old and new funds available.

I am gratified to observe the initial speed with which this important program is developing. I am hopeful that the States will continue to move swiftly in advancing final project applications for construction. Prompt State action will help alleviate the great deficiencies in our highway systems and will convert the Federal fund authorizations into usable roads at the earliest possible time.

NOTE: Secretary Weeks' report, released with the foregoing statement, also informed the President that standards for improvement of the Interstate System were adopted by the State highway departments only 13 days after approval of the 1956

act. He added that these standards had been approved by the Bureau of Public Roads for application to all Interstate System improvements. The report is in the form of a letter dated August 9, 1956.

187 ¶ Statement by the President Following Meeting With the Commission on Increased Use of Agricultural Products. *August 20, 1956*

I HAVE TODAY met with the five members of the newly appointed bi-partisan Commission on Increased Industrial Use of Agricultural Products. The Commission's purpose, described in its name, is a very important one. In yet another way this Commission is going to attack the problems that have been created for our farmers by the production of agricultural surpluses.

The Commission members have told me today that their purpose is to see what can be done to put modern industrial science

and technology to work to reduce our surpluses through their profitable use in new ways by industry. The Commission will recommend legislation designed to foster the discovery and development of new and improved industrial goods for the nation—goods which will be manufactured in whole or in part from surplus agricultural raw materials. As these efforts are successful, markets for farm products will be broadened and agricultural surpluses will be further reduced.

The Commission's deadline is June 15, 1957, but I am highly pleased with the Commission's report to me that it intends to make every effort to have its recommendations ready in time for legislative action at the next session of the Congress.

The Commission is holding its first meetings this week. It has my full support and heartfelt good wishes as it begins its most important work.

NOTE: The Commission consisted of J. Leroy Welsh, of Omaha, Nebr., Chairman; George Henry Coppers, Englewood, N. J., Dr. Karl D. But-

ler, Ithaca, N. Y., Dr. Charles R. Sayre, Scott, Miss., Dr. Frank J. Welch, Lexington, Ky.

188 ¶ Remarks on Arrival at San Francisco for the Republican National Convention.

August 21, 1956

Governor Knight, Mrs. Knight, ladies and gentlemen:

It is wonderful to be back in your great State.

A few days ago I was reading the paper and I suddenly decided this was too interesting a place to stay away from until Wednesday night. So I induced my family to change their plans so that I could get here twenty-four hours earlier. I just read the names of too many friends in the papers and I wanted to see them. And I hope I find some of those friends among you.

Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at the International Airport at 7:00 p. m. in response to words of greeting by Governor Goodwin J. Knight.

189 ¶ The President's News Conference at San Francisco, *August 22, 1956.*

THE PRESIDENT. Sit down, gentlemen. Good morning—good morning.

I have a couple of short announcements, ladies and gentlemen, before we go to questions.

First, this morning early, I was called up by the Vice President who told me that his father was very seriously ill, and was called to Los Angeles. I expressed my regret, of course, on my own behalf—those of all our associates—but of course he had to go. And I do know that I speak for all Americans in expressing the great hope that the illness will prove not too serious and his father will recover.

The next announcement is this: some weeks ago, both the Vice President and myself expressed the very great hope that this would be an open convention—I said as far as it could be for the nomination of the Presidency, and he said certainly for the office of the Vice Presidency.

I talked to the chairman—permanent chairman of the committee—this morning, and he said in order that there could be no suggestion of a freezeout, he was going to call the roll of States, there would be no nomination and designation accepted until everybody had his chance to say something.

But as you know, the only individual who has made any great effort to produce another candidate has been Mr. Stassen.

Mr. Stassen called to see me a few minutes ago. He said from the beginning that he had great admiration for the Vice President, respected the work he had done in government, but that he believed there were individuals who would add greater strength

to the ticket than would Mr. Nixon. And in that belief he had proceeded with his effort.

He also said that no matter who the Republican Convention should name as their ticket, that he wanted to be one of those who supported it enthusiastically and right down through the campaign and on from there.

So he said this morning that after several days here, he had become absolutely convinced that the majority of the delegates want Mr. Nixon. In these circumstances, and particularly since his own candidate had withdrawn so decisively, he saw no reason for going further with his effort. He thought in order to get his own position clear before the convention and the American public, he was going to ask the convention chairman for permission this afternoon to second—is it today?—yes—this afternoon, to second the nomination of the Vice President, Mr. Nixon, for renomination.

I repeat that Mr. Stassen has from the first stated and expressed his admiration for the Vice President, and he merely believes now that there is no possibility of bringing in any other candidate who he believes would be strong enough.

Those are the only announcements I have to make, gentlemen, and now we will go to questions.

Q. (Questioner unidentified): Mr. President, could you tell us what you told Mr. Stassen this morning?

THE PRESIDENT. I told him that I would come right down and announce it to this group, so that I could express my confidence that the Republican Convention would receive his statement exactly as he stated it and meant it, and that they would accord him the courtesy of a real hearing.

Q. William H. Lawrence, New York Times: Mr. President, is it your intention, sir, to have Mr. Stassen back on your staff and on the team again——

THE PRESIDENT. He has never left it, except to take leave.

Q. Mr. Lawrence: ——when his leave expires?

THE PRESIDENT. Yes. So far as I am concerned, I have no other plans.

Q. Charles Shutt, Telenews: Mr. President, do you believe that now he is going to second the nomination, that the Republican Party does now have one hundred percent harmony within its ranks?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I don't mean to say that there may not be someone else nominated. There may be. I don't know. Because, after all, I have been here much less than you people have. But Mr. Stassen is convinced that the mass of the delegates wants Mr. Nixon; therefore the best service he can perform now is to show that he is a team player, getting onto the job in this way.

Q. Robert E. Clark, International News Service: Mr. President, did you at any time prepare any list of other Republicans who would be acceptable to you as your running mate?

THE PRESIDENT. No. As I told you once in Washington, everybody knows in 1952 that I did prepare a list of some five or six—I have forgotten the exact number—and gave it to the group that visited me to notify me of my nomination.

Actually, having been in office $3\frac{1}{2}$ years, I have a record on which to stand now. Those people, I think, are well known that support the progressive platform in which I believe; therefore any of them that the convention would believe to have national stature, and who I would hope would be younger than I am, would be acceptable to me.

Q. Merriman Smith, United Press: Mr. President, have you ever thought or considered anyone else but Mr. Nixon as your running mate this year?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, you will remember for quite a little while, Mr. Smith, I didn't know that Mr. Nixon was going to run again. He took quite a considerable time, after he and I first talked it over, to make up his mind; and during that period I thought of a whole group. I told you once the only reason I didn't name them—because I was proud of them all—is that

finally someone might bring up a name and I would say "No, I wouldn't want to run with that person"—it would be only for some reason that I couldn't think of, but I didn't want to run that risk.

Q. Marvin Arrowsmith, Associated Press: As you know, the Democrats made some pretty sharp attacks on you and your administration last week. There are some reports around that you are pretty burned up about that. Can you tell us what your reaction has been to that criticism?

THE PRESIDENT. I have never answered criticism in my life. In war I was called reckless one day and a coward the next. And you get used to it.

Now, as I say, the Republicans have a record. I think I have something of a record. I stand on it. And I don't believe that that kind of attack will do anything but rebound upon the people who make it.

Q. Ray Scherer, National Broadcasting Company: Your colleagues say there is a lot of enthusiasm out in the Cow Palace. Do you see any danger of complacency about November?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, of course, the party in power always runs the danger of complacency, but I think that our people are all roused up to the very great necessity of continuing the kind of program that they have been supporting for the past 3½ years, and that you will find in every State of the Union and indeed down to every precinct the kind of work that is needed.

Q. Charles W. Roberts, Newsweek: To clear up this Vice Presidency matter, is it true that you came here with the intention of interviewing prospective candidates for the Vice Presidency?

THE PRESIDENT. Not the slightest.

Q. Don Whitehead, New York Herald-Tribune: How actively do you plan to campaign this fall, Mr. President?

THE PRESIDENT. Well now, Mr. Whitehead, won't you let me be nominated before I start making plans for that? [*Laughter*]

Really, I haven't any plans beyond those that have already been discussed and announced.

Q. Robert Richards, Copley Press: Mr. President, you look awfully well, sir. Will you just lay that scurrilous rumor that you were going to have to go back to the hospital after the election?

THE PRESIDENT. I never saw it, but Mr. Hagerty came in and rather laughingly asked me if I was going to have another operation, and I said never. No, no doctor has ever suggested it. Never.

Q. Mrs. May Craig, Portland (Maine) Press Herald: Mr. President, have you now or will you talk with Governor Dewey about running for the Senate, in view of Senator Lehman's withdrawal?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I never have. Now Mr. Dewey came to see me just 2 or 3 days before he came out here—maybe the day before. I recall that the only thing he said about politics was some expression of the thankfulness that he was out of it. So it didn't occur to me to bring up that subject, and I haven't heard it discussed.

If I thought it were a good thing, why I would discuss it with him personally, but I have nothing to do with New York politics.

Q. Edward T. Folliard, Washington Post: Mr. President, down in Panama you made the remark about not having recovered your strength. How do you feel now, sir?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I told you at the same time, though, Mr. Folliard, that I was getting stronger every day.

Now I find that when I get out behind the White House and I try to hit some balls, after a little while I seem to begin to drag the club, which I don't like. But otherwise I feel about as good as ever.

Q. Robert G. Spivack, New York Post: Can you tell us, Mr. President, what you think of the candidates chosen by the Democrats?

THE PRESIDENT. I wouldn't express an opinion at all. Of course not.

Q. (Questioner unidentified) : Mr. President, did Mr. Stassen give you the reasons for this move to second Mr. Nixon's nomination?

THE PRESIDENT. Yes. I thought I expressed them very clearly. He said that the mass of delegates unquestionably wanted Mr. Nixon, and since from the beginning Mr. Stassen had said "I am going to support the Republican ticket no matter who is on it," this was the best way he thought he could show his determination, his enthusiastic determination, to do just that.

Q. Merriman Smith, United Press: Mr. President, Governor Stassen has said repeatedly here in San Francisco for the last few days that he believes Mr. Nixon would detract some millions of voters from the ticket if he ran. Now, has he changed his mind about that?

THE PRESIDENT. He didn't even mention that. He said that—exactly as I have told you. He said that he was convinced that the mass of delegates wanted him. He wanted to show his readiness to support the ticket no matter who is named and this is the best way to do it.

Q. Robert E. Clark, International News Service: Do you think it might be possible to nominate a stronger candidate than Mr. Nixon?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I wouldn't know. Personally, as I have told you people many, many times, I felt justified in commenting on Mr. Nixon because he had held the job. I thought he did it in extraordinarily good fashion. As a matter of fact, as you all know, he has been brought into the affairs of government much more closely than, so far as I know, any other Vice President that has ever been brought in. He has done everything I asked him, beautifully. So that from my viewpoint, as far as efficiency, dedication to his job, loyalty to his country is concerned, I think he is as good a man as you can get.

Q. (Questioner unidentified) : I understand former President

Hoover said that there are some members of both parties who are out of their proper spiritual home. Do you feel that there is anyone in the Republican Party who is in the wrong spiritual home?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I don't think I had better comment on that "shooting from the hip." I guess some people have said I am. I believe certain things very earnestly, and it seems to me that the mass of the Republican Party has come along and believes in general the same thing.

Q. (Questioner unidentified): You don't believe President Hoover was talking about you, do you?

THE PRESIDENT. I don't think he was, no.

Q. Laurence H. Burd, Chicago Tribune: Did anyone else ever come to you to suggest that he would like to run for the Vice Presidency?

THE PRESIDENT. No. The only people that ever came to me said that they did not want to. They said they had been named, or been suggested—one or two cases where clubs had been started. And this includes, indeed, Mr. Stassen himself—where clubs started. And these individuals had merely said we don't believe—he didn't believe that he would be the man to do it.

Q. Peter J. Kumpa, Baltimore Sun: Would you comment on the platform adopted last night? Is it satisfactory for you to run on?

THE PRESIDENT. Yes, it is.

Q. (Questioner unidentified): Mr. President, would you care to comment on the importance of electing a Republican Congress in the fall?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I have discussed this point numerous times. This is what I will say at this moment: I believe that as a normal thing, our country will be best served when the White House and the Congress are both run by the same political party, for the simple reason you can then fix responsibility.

Now I am not going back and compare the different qualities of various Presidents at times in the past. I merely say that if

there is a Republican President elected, then I think there should be a Republican Congress on both sides of the House.

Q. James B. Reston, New York Times: Sir, did you ever at any time make any objective check on the Stassen assertions that Nixon would weaken the ticket—you or anybody in the administration?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I have seen—you say objective test—I have seen polls of various kinds, some of them in one area indicate one thing, in other places they indicate another.

Now frankly—this could get a little bit embarrassing because all the polls that I saw showed this: that any Vice President seemed to reduce my percentage just a trifle. [*Laughter*]

I don't, by any manner of means, want to say that there aren't many younger men in this party that could do even my "chore" as well or even better. But the fact is that was the case on all of the polls I saw.

Q. (Questioner unidentified): Did you discuss any California politics with Senators Kuchel and Knowland this morning?

THE PRESIDENT. Not that I recall. We talked, generally speaking, about national politics, and what we were going to do.

Q. Fletcher Knebel, Cowles Publications: If you were a delegate from Pennsylvania, would you vote for Nixon for Vice President?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I think that I can be excused from answering "iffy" questions, and for this reason only: not that by any manner of means, knowing what I do, would I consider him unfit for the office, but there are many people that could be brought up and there would be many questions that I would have to take into mind, if I were in that position. So I am not going to express an opinion one way or the other. I think Dick Nixon knows what I think about him and I think you know what I think of Dick Nixon.

Q. Henry Brandon, London Sunday Times: I wonder whether you could tell us what sort of impression you are getting from Mr. Dulles' reports about the Suez Canal conference?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, frankly I am a little bit nervous about talking because I am not sure how much of these reports has gotten into the public press. And I certainly wouldn't want to be in the position of damaging progress that has been made in these by any immature disclosure. So if you would just pardon me, I won't say anything except this: in many ways they have gone much better, I think, than we could have possibly expected 3 or 4 weeks ago when this thing first blazed up on the headlines of the world.

Q. Lawrence Davies, New York Times: Mr. President, has the name of Governor Goodwin J. Knight ever been presented to you in any form as a possible candidate for Vice President?

THE PRESIDENT. Never.

Q. Gene Wortsman, Rocky Mountain News: Mr. President, I will ask the same question, sir, about Dan Thornton?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, Governor Thornton was one of the men that came to me once and said that there had been some talk of this kind, but that he would prefer not to be considered—told me this some months ago.

Q. (Questioner unidentified): Did you hear Governor Langlie's keynote address, and do you think he adequately presented the Republican case?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I don't know whether any one address can present adequately the Republican case, because the Republicans like every other body in this world are composed of members of diverse types of humans and individuals. I thought that taking it by and large, it was a very good, forceful speech. That's one speech I got to listen to all of it.

Q. William H. Lawrence, New York Times: You have said, sir, that you believed in an open convention and a free choice, and that all of the people who have come to you in connection with the Vice Presidency have said themselves that they did not wish to be candidates. Would you, on the other hand, have talked to people, had there been such who wished to be?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I would certainly have listened to their case. As a matter of fact, Mr. Nixon is one of those who urged me to do so. He said by no manner of means did he want to be a candidate where it just looked like it had been a steamrolled affair.

Q. Merriman Smith, United Press: Thank you, Mr. President.

NOTE: President Eisenhower's ninety-second news conference was held in the Italian Room of the St. Francis Hotel, San Francisco, Calif., at 11:45 o'clock on Wednesday morning, August 22, 1956. The attendance was not recorded.

190 ¶ Address at the Cow Palace on Accepting the Nomination of the Republican National Convention. *August 23, 1956*

[Broadcast over radio and television at 6:18 p. m.]

Chairman Martin, Delegates and Alternates to this great Convention, distinguished guests and my fellow Americans wherever they may be in this broad land:

I should first tell you that I have no words in which to express the gratitude that Mrs. Eisenhower and I feel for the warmth of your welcome. The cordiality you have extended to us and to the members of our family, our son and daughter, my brothers and their wives, touches our hearts deeply.

Thank you very much indeed.

I thank you additionally and personally for the high honor you have accorded me in entrusting me once more with your nomination for the Presidency. And I should like to say that it is a great satisfaction to me that the team of individuals you selected in 1952 you have selected to keep intact for this campaign.

I am not here going to attempt a eulogy of Mr. Nixon. You have heard his qualifications described in the past several days.

I merely want to say this: that whatever dedication to country, loyalty and patriotism and great ability can do for America, he will do—and that I know.

Ladies and gentlemen, when Abraham Lincoln was nominated in 1860, and a committee brought the news to him at his home in Springfield, Illinois, his reply was two sentences long. Then, while his friends and neighbors waited in the street, and while bonfires lit up the May evening, he said simply, “And now I will not longer defer the pleasure of taking you, and each of you, by the hand.”

I wish I could do the same—speak two sentences, and then take each one of you by the hand, all of you who are in sound of my voice. If I could do so, I would first thank you individually for your confidence and your trust. Then, as I am sure Lincoln did as he moved among his friends in the light of the bonfires, we could pause and talk a while about the questions that are uppermost in your mind.

I am sure that one topic would dominate all the rest. That topic is: the future.

This is a good time to think about the future, for this convention is celebrating its one hundredth anniversary. And a centennial is an occasion, not just for recalling the inspiring past, but even more for looking ahead to the demanding future.

Just as on New Year’s Day we instinctively think, “I wonder where I will be a year from now,” so it is quite natural for the Republican Party to ask today, “What will happen, not just in the coming election, but even one hundred years from now?”

My answer is this: If we and our successors are as courageous and forward-looking and as militantly determined, here under the klieg-lights of the twentieth century, as Abraham Lincoln and his associates were in the bonfire-light of the nineteenth, the Republican Party will continue to grow in the confidence and affection of the American people, not only to November next, but indeed to, and beyond, its second centennial.

Now, of course, in this convention setting, you and I are momentarily more interested in November 1956 than in 2056. But the point is this: Our policies are right today only as they are designed to stand the test of tomorrow.

The great Norwegian, Henrik Ibsen once wrote: "I hold that man is in the right who is most clearly in league with the future."

Today I want to demonstrate the truth of a single proposition: The Republican Party is the Party of the Future.

I hold that the Republican Party and platform are right in 1956, because they are "most closely in league with the future." And for this reason the Republican Party and program are and will be decisively approved by the American people in 1956!

My friends, I have just made a very flat statement for victory for the Republican Party in November, and I believe it from the bottom of my heart.

But what I say is based upon certain assumptions, and those assumptions must become true if the prediction I make is to be valid. And that is this: that every American who believes as we do—the Republicans, the independents, the straight-thinking Democrats—must carry the message of the record and the pledges that we here make—that we have made and here make, to all the people of the land.

We must see, as we do our civic duty, that not only do we vote but that everybody is qualified to vote, that everybody registers and everybody goes to the polls in November. Here is a task not only for the Republican National Committee, for the women's organizations, for the citizens' organizations, for the so-called Youth for Eisenhower—everybody that bears this message in his heart must carry it to the country.

In that way we will win.

And which reminds me, my friends, there are only a few days left for registering in a number of our States. That is one thing you cannot defer. The records show that our registration as compared to former years at this time is way down across the land—registration across the board. Let's help the American

Heritage, let's help the Boy Scouts, let's help everybody to get people out to register to vote.

Now, of special relevance, and to me particularly gratifying, is the fact that the country's young people show a consistent preference for this Administration. After all, let us not forget, these young people are America's future. Parenthetically, may I say I shall never cease to hope that the several states will give them the voting privilege at a somewhat earlier age than is now generally the case.

Now, the first reason of the five I shall give you why the Republican Party is the Party of the Future is this:

First: Because it is the Party of long-range principle, not short-term expediency.

One of my predecessors is said to have observed that in making his decisions he had to operate like a football quarterback—he could not very well call the next play until he saw how the last play turned out. Well, that may be a good way to run a football team, but in these days it is no way to run a government.

Now, why is it so important that great governmental programs be based upon principle rather than upon shifting political opportunism?

It is because what government does affects profoundly the daily lives and plans of every person in the country. If governmental action is without the solid guidelines of enduring principle, national policies flounder in confusion. And more than this, the millions of individuals, families and enterprises, whose risk-taking and planning for the future are our country's very life force, are paralyzed by uncertainty, diffidence and indecision.

Change based on principle is progress. Constant change without principle becomes chaos.

I shall give you several examples of rejecting expediency in favor of principle.

First, the farm issue.

Expediency said: "Let's do something in a hurry—anything—even multiply our price-depressing surpluses at the risk of making

the problem twice as bad next year—just so we get through this year.”

People who talk like that do not care about principle, and do not know farmers. The farmer deals every day in basic principles of growth and life. His product must be planned, and cultivated, and harvested over a long period. He has to figure not just a year at a time but over cycles and spans of years, as to his soil, his water, his equipment, the strains of his stock—and the strains on his income.

And so, for this man of principle, we have designed our program of principle. In it, we recognize that we have received from our forebears a rich legacy: our continent’s basic resource of soil. We are determined that, through such measures as the Soil Bank and the Great Plains program, this legacy shall be handed on to our children even richer than we received it.

We are equally determined that farm prices and income, which were needlessly pushed down under surpluses—surpluses induced first by war and then by unwise political action that was stubbornly and recklessly prolonged, shall in the coming months and years get back on a genuinely healthy basis. This improvement must continue until a rightful share of our prosperity is permanently enjoyed by agriculture—on which our very life depends.

A second example: labor relations.

Expediency said: “When a major labor dispute looms, the government must do something—anything—to settle the dispute even before the parties have finished negotiating. Get an injunction. Seize the steel mills. Appoint a board. Knock their heads together.”

Principle says: “Free collective bargaining without government interference is the cornerstone of the American philosophy of labor-management relations.”

If the government charges impatiently into every major dispute, the negotiations between parties will become a pointless preliminary farce, while everyone waits around to see what the government will do. This Administration has faith in the right-

ness of the collective bargaining principle. It believes in the maturity of both labor and business leaders, and in their determination to do what is best not only for their own side but for the country as a whole.

The results: For the first time in our history a complete steel contract was negotiated and signed without direct government intervention, and the last three and a half years have witnessed one of the most remarkable periods of labor peace on record.

Another example: concentration of power in Washington.

Expediency said: "We cannot allow our fine new ideas to be at the mercy of 51 separate state and territorial legislatures. It is so much quicker and easier to plan, finance and direct all major projects from Washington."

Principle says: "Geographical balance of power is essential to our form of free society. If you take the centralization shortcut every time something is to be done, you will perhaps sometimes get quick action. But there is no perhaps about the price you will pay for your impatience: the growth of a swollen, bureaucratic, monster government in Washington, in whose shadow our state and local governments will ultimately wither and die."

And so we stemmed the heedless stampede to Washington. We made a special point of building up state activities, state finances, and state prestige.

Our Founding Fathers showed us how the Federal Government could exercise its undoubted responsibility for leadership, while still stopping short of the kind of interference that deadens local vigor, variety, initiative and imagination. So today we say to our young people: The Party of the Future will pass along to you undamaged the unique system of division of authority which has proved so successful in reconciling our oldest ideals of personal freedom with the twentieth-century need for decisiveness in action.

My second reason for saying that the Republican Party is the Party of the Future is this: It is the Party which concentrates on

the facts and issues of today and tomorrow, not the facts and issues of yesterday.

More than twenty years ago, our opponents found in the problems of the depression a battleground on which they scored many political victories. Now, economic cycles have not been eliminated. Still, the world has moved on from the 1930's: good times have supplanted depression; new techniques for checking serious recession have been learned and tested and a whole new array of problems has sprung up. But their obsession with a depression still blinds many of our opponents to the insistent demands of today.

The present and the future are bringing new kinds of challenge to federal and local governments: water supply, highways, health, housing, power development, and peaceful uses of atomic energy. With two-thirds of us living in big cities, questions of urban organization and redevelopment must be given high priority. Highest of all, perhaps, will be the priority of first-class education to meet the demands of our swiftly growing school-age population.

The Party of the young and of all ages says: Let us quit fighting the battles of the past, and let us all turn our attention to these problems of the present and future, on which the long-term well-being of our people so urgently depends.

Third: The Republican Party is the Party of the Future because it is the party that draws people together, not drives them apart.

Our Party detests the technique of pitting group against group for cheap political advantage. Republicans view as a central principle of conduct—not just as a phrase on nickels and dimes—that old motto of ours: “E pluribus unum”—“Out of many—one.”

Our Party as far back as 1856 began establishing a record of bringing together, as its largest element, the working people and small farmers, as well as the small businessmen. It attracted minority groups, scholars and writers, not to mention reformers

of all kinds, Free-Soilers, Independent Democrats, Conscience Whigs, Barnburners, "soft Hunkers," teetotallers, vegetarians, and transcendentalists!

Now, a hundred years later, the Republican Party is again the rallying point for Americans of all callings, ages, races and incomes. They see in its broad, forward-moving, straight-down-the road, fighting program the best promise for their own steady progress toward a bright future. Some opponents have tried to call this a "one-interest party." Indeed it is a one-interest party; and that one interest is the interest of every man, woman and child in America! And most surely, as long as the Republican Party continues to be this kind of one-interest party—a one-universal-interest party—it will continue to be the Party of the Future.

And now the fourth reason: The Republican Party is the Party of the Future because it is the party through which the many things that still need doing will soonest be done—and will be done by enlisting the fullest energies of free, creative, individual people.

Republicans have proved that it is possible for a government to have a warm, sensitive concern for the everyday needs of people, while steering clear of the paternalistic "Big-Brother-is-watching-you" kind of interference. The individual—and especially the idealistic young person—has no faith in a tight federal monopoly on problem-solving. He seeks and deserves opportunity for himself and every other person who is burning to participate in putting right the wrongs of the world.

In our time of prosperity and progress, one thing we must always be on guard against is smugness. True, things are going well; but there are thousands of things still to be done. There are still enough needless sufferings to be cured, enough injustices to be erased, to provide careers for all the crusaders we can produce or find.

We want them all! Republicans, independents, discerning Democrats—come on in and help!

One hundred years ago the Republican Party was created in a devout belief in equal justice and equal opportunity for all in a nation of free men and women.

What is more, the Republican Party's record on social justice rests, not on words and promises, but on accomplishment. The record shows that a wide range of quietly effective actions, conceived in understanding and good will for all, has brought about more genuine—and often voluntary—progress toward equal justice and opportunity in the last three years than was accomplished in all the previous twenty put together. Elimination of various kinds of discrimination in the Armed Services, the District of Columbia, and among the employees of government contractors provides specific examples of this progress.

In this work, incidentally, no one has been more effective and more energetic than our Vice President who has headed one of the great Committees in this direction.

Now, in all existing kinds of discrimination there is much to do. We must insure a fair chance to such people as mature workers who have trouble getting jobs, older citizens with problems of health, housing, security and recreation, migratory farm laborers and physically-handicapped workers. We have with us, also, problems involving American Indians, low-income farmers and laborers, women who sometimes do not get equal pay for equal work, small businessmen, and employers and workers in areas which need special assistance for redevelopment.

Specific new programs of action are being pushed for all of these, the most recent being a new 14-point program for small businessmen which was announced early in August. And the everyday well-being of people is being advanced on many other fronts. This is being done, not by paternalistic regimentation. It is done by clear cut, aggressive Federal leadership and by releasing the illimitable resources and drives of our millions of self-reliant individuals and our thousands of private organizations of every conceivable kind and size—each of these is con-

secrated to the task of meeting some human need, curing some human evil, or enriching some human experience.

Finally, a Party of the Future must be completely dedicated to peace, as indeed must all Americans. For without peace there is no future.

It was in the light of this truth that the United States proposed its Atoms for Peace Plan in 1953, and since then has done so much to make this new science universally available to friendly nations in order to promote human welfare. We have agreements with more than thirty nations for research reactors, and with seven for power reactors, while many others are under consideration. Twenty thousand kilograms of nuclear fuel have been set aside for the foreign programs.

In the same way, we have worked unceasingly for the promotion of effective steps in disarmament so that the labor of men could with confidence be devoted to their own improvement rather than wasted in the building of engines of destruction.

No one is more aware than I that it is the young who fight the wars, and it is the young who give up years of their lives to military training and service. It is not enough that their elders promise "Peace in our time"; it must be peace in their time too, and in their children's time; indeed, my friends, there is only one real peace now, and that is peace for all time.

Now there are three imperatives of peace—three requirements that the prudent man must face with unblinking realism.

The first imperative is the elementary necessity of maintaining our own national strength—moral, economic and military.

It is still my conviction, as I wrote in 1947: "The compelling necessities of the moment leave us no alternative to the maintenance of real and respectable strength—not only in our moral rectitude and our economic power, but in terms of adequate military preparedness."

During the past three and one-half years, our military strength has been constantly augmented, soberly and intelligently. Our country has never before in peacetime been so well prepared mili-

tarily. So long as the world situation requires, our security must be vigorously sustained.

Our economic power, as everyone knows, is displaying a capacity for growth which is both rapid and sound, even while supporting record military budgets. We must keep it growing.

But moral strength is also essential. Today we are competing for men's hearts, and minds, and trust all over the world. In such a competition, what we are at home and what we do at home is even more important than what we say abroad. Here again, my friends, we find constructive work for each of us.

What each of us does, how each of us acts, has an influence on this question.

Now, the second imperative of peace is collective security.

We live in a shrunken world, a world in which oceans are crossed in hours, a world in which a single-minded despotism menaces the scattered freedoms of scores of struggling independent nations. To ensure the combined strength of friendly nations is for all of us an elementary matter of self-preservation—as elementary as having a stout militia in the days of the flint-lock.

Again, the strength I speak of is not military strength alone. The heart of the collective security principle is the idea of helping other nations to realize their own potentialities—political, economic and military. The strength of the free world lies not in cementing the free world into a second monolithic mass to compete with that of the communists. It lies rather in the unity that comes of the voluntary association of nations which, however diverse, are developing their own capacities and asserting their own national destinies in a world of freedom and of mutual respect.

There can be no enduring peace for any nation while other nations suffer privation, oppression, and a sense of injustice and despair. In our modern world, it is madness to suppose that there could be an island of tranquillity and prosperity in a sea of wretchedness and frustration. For America's sake, as well as the world's, we must measure up to the challenge of the second

imperative; the urgent need for mutual economic and military cooperation among the free nations, sufficient to deter or repel aggression wherever it may threaten.

But even this is no longer enough.

We are in the era of the thermo-nuclear bomb that can obliterate cities and can be delivered across continents. With such weapons, war has become, not just tragic, but preposterous. With such weapons, there can be no victory for anyone. Plainly, the objective now must be to see that such a war does not occur at all.

And so the third imperative of peace is this: Without for a moment relaxing our internal and collective defenses, we must actively try to bridge the great chasm that separates us from the peoples under communist rule. In those regions are millions of individual human beings who have been our friends, and who themselves have sincerely wanted peace and freedom, throughout so much of our mutual history.

Now for years the Iron Curtain was impenetrable. Our people were unable to talk to these individuals behind the Curtain, or travel among them, or share their arts or sports, or invite them to see what life is like in a free democracy, or even get acquainted in any way. What future was there in such a course, except greater misunderstanding and an ever deepening division in the world?

Of course, good will from our side can do little to reach these peoples unless there is some new spirit of conciliation on the part of the governments controlling them. Now, at last, there appear to be signs that some small degree of friendly intercourse among peoples may be permitted. We are beginning to be able—cautiously and with our eyes open—to encourage some interchange of ideas, of books, magazines, students, tourists, artists, radio programs, technical experts, religious leaders and governmental officials. The hope is that, little by little, mistrust based on falsehoods will give way to international understanding based on truth.

Now, as this development gradually comes about, it will not seem futile for young people to dream of a brave and new and shining world, or for older people to feel that they can in fact bequeath to their children a better inheritance than that which was their own. Science and technology, labor-saving methods, management, labor organization, education, medicine—and not least, politics and government—all these have brought within our grasp a world in which backbreaking toil and longer hours will not be necessary.

Travel all over the world, to learn to know our brothers abroad, will be fast and cheap. The fear and pain of crippling disease will be greatly reduced. The material things that make life interesting and pleasant will be available to everyone. Leisure, together with educational and recreational facilities, will be abundant, so that all can develop the life of the spirit, of reflection, of religion, of the arts, of the full realization of the good things of the world. And political wisdom will ensure justice and harmony.

This picture of the future brings to mind a little story.

A government worker, when he first arrived in Washington in 1953, was passing the National Archives Building in a taxi, where he saw this motto carved on one of its pedestals: "What is Past is Prologue." He had heard that Washington cab drivers were noted for knowing all the Washington answers, so he asked the driver about the motto. "Oh that," said the driver, "That's just bureaucrat talk. What it really means is—'You ain't seen nothing yet.'"

My friends, the kind of era I have described is possible. But it will not be attained by revolution. It will not be attained by the sordid politics of pitting group against group. It will be brought about by the ambitions and judgments and inspirations and darings of 168 million free Americans working together and with friends abroad toward a common ideal in a peaceful world.

Lincoln, speaking to the Republican State Convention in 1858,

began with the biblical quotation, "A house divided against itself cannot stand."

Today the world is a house divided.

But—as is sometimes forgotten—Lincoln followed this quotation with a note of hope for his troubled country: "I do not expect the house to fall," he said, "but I do expect it will cease to be divided."

A century later, we too must have the vision, the fighting spirit, and the deep religious faith in our Creator's destiny for us, to sound a similar note of promise for our divided world; that out of our time there can, with incessant work and with God's help, emerge a new era of good life, good will and good hope for all men.

One American put it this way: "Every tomorrow has two handles. We can take hold of it with the handle of anxiety or the handle of faith."

My friends, in firm faith, and in the conviction that the Republican purposes and principles are "in league" with this kind of future, the nomination that you have tendered me for the Presidency of the United States I now—humbly but confidently—accept.

NOTE: The President's opening words "Chairman Martin" referred to Joseph W. Martin, Jr., U. S. Representative from Massachusetts, Permanent Chairman of the Convention.

191 ¶ Statement by the President Concerning
Resumption of Nuclear Tests by the U. S. S. R.
August 26, 1956

I WISH AGAIN to emphasize the necessity for effective international control of atomic energy and such measures of adequately safeguarded disarmament as are now feasible. This is a

goal which the United States has consistently sought and which has received the support of a large majority of the members of the United Nations.

NOTE: The President's statement was part of a White House release to which was attached a statement by Lewis L. Strauss, Chairman, Atomic Energy Commission. The release added that Mr. Strauss' statement was being made public in accordance with the President's policy of keeping the American people informed to the fullest practical extent of important developments at home and abroad concerning nuclear weapons.

In his statement Mr. Strauss noted that the Soviet Union had resumed

its testing of nuclear weapons and had detonated a nuclear device on August 24, 1956. He added that the Soviet Union had never given the world any assurances with respect to the way in which it conducts nuclear weapons tests and had never given advance notice of any of its detonations or test series.

The full text of Mr. Strauss' statement is published in the Department of State Bulletin (vol. 35, p. 424). The President's statement was released at Cypress Point, Calif.

192 ¶ Statement by the President Following Receipt of Secretary Dulles' Report on the London Suez Conference. *August 29, 1956*

I HAVE JUST RECEIVED from Secretary Dulles a full report upon the London Suez Conference. This supplements the daily messages which I received from him while he was in London.

It is, I think, of great significance that 18 of the 22 nations assembled in London, the shipping of which represents over 95% of the traffic through the Suez Canal, have agreed upon conditions which in their opinion are indispensable to give confidence that this waterway internationalized by the Treaty of 1888 will be operated so as dependably to serve its appointed purpose.

I am glad that President Nasser is prepared to meet to discuss this program.

This program was conceived in an atmosphere of friendly conciliation and, in my opinion, ought to rally behind it the support

of all the nations and peoples that believe in the processes of international justice and conciliation.

The United States Government and, I believe, the American nation completely support the 18-nation proposal thus arrived at in London, which, fully respecting the sovereignty of Egypt, would assure a peaceful solution of this great problem.

NOTE: Secretary Dulles reported to the President in person. The text of proposals approved by the 18 nations is published in the Department of State Bulletin (vol. 35, p. 373).

193 ¶ The President's News Conference of *August 31, 1956.*

THE PRESIDENT. Please sit down.

I have two short announcements this morning. Last week I released a memorandum from California submitted to me by Admiral Strauss on Russian atomic tests,¹ and this morning I have a memorandum that there was another large test at the accustomed place in Siberia on Thursday morning. This was a larger explosion than the one preceding.

It is notable that although Soviet diplomats throughout the world talk about the possibility or plans for abolishing the atom weapon from the arsenals of the world, they go right ahead without prior announcement and with wartime secrecy, their scientists and soldiers do, in testing these weapons.

The other announcement I have has to do with an apparent misunderstanding that's arisen about my use of the word "internationalize" with respect to the Suez Canal.

I want to make this statement: we are, I think, talking at cross-purposes. I referred to the Suez Canal as a waterway internationalized by the treaty of 1888. That treaty gives many nations rights in and to the canal in perpetuity.

¹ Item 191 above.

Now, of course, that does not mean that these nations own the canal. It does mean that under the treaty, Egypt cannot now or in the future jeopardize those rights of other nations. Therefore, in the sense of the usage of the canal, it is internationalized.

In the formal statement of 2 days ago, I expressed the hope that the 18-nation proposal would prove acceptable to all concerned, and in that statement I noted specifically that the proposal fully respected the sovereignty of Egypt.

That is the only announcement I have. We will go to questions.

Q. Robert E. Clark, International News Service: Mr. President, some of your advisers at San Francisco told us that you definitely planned to campaign in the Pacific Northwest, and that you hoped to go into as many as three Midwest States in the Ohio area in one day. Can you tell us any more about how much personalized campaigning you plan to do in addition to your major television addresses?

THE PRESIDENT. Mr. Clark, right now, that whole business of planning that kind of thing is the subject of a great deal of conversation and talk, but nothing has been finalized, and I think there must be some misunderstanding.

I was invited to all those places, and I just expressed interest in them. I expressed no plans to go.

Q. Merriman Smith, United Press: Mr. President, in your Russian nuclear weapon announcement in California, you said that that weapon was of less than a megaton.

THE PRESIDENT. Yes.

Q. Mr. Smith: Now, you say this one yesterday was more powerful. Was it more than a megaton?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I can't tell you exactly. I just merely say it was somewhat larger than the other one, because complete and thorough tests have to be made, and I think that the Atomic Energy Commission is not ready to give their analysis of its exact size.

Q. John L. Steele, Time Magazine: In connection with your original announcement, sir, of this morning, I realize it is a sensitive subject. Are you able to tell us whether this means any changes in our own defense planning or readjustment of our own defense spending?

THE PRESIDENT. None. As I have said before, we have to go on the assumption that the ultimate intentions of the Russians have not changed; and as the first element of securing and maintaining the peace in the world, we maintain our own security.

Q. Andrew F. Tully, Jr., Scripps-Howard: Mr. President, the Republican National Committee has removed the "ic" from the name of a certain political party. I wonder, sir, if you approve of this larceny. [*Laughter*]

THE PRESIDENT. Well, the only thing I know—when I asked about that, they said that Republican orators have, for many years, been doing exactly that, and that this is nothing new in their practice.

Q. Mr. Tully: Are you going to call it the Democrat Party, sir?

THE PRESIDENT. I beg your pardon?

Q. Mr. Tully: Are you going to leave the "ic" off?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I couldn't promise; I don't know how I'll do it. I will probably do it on the spur of the moment; but as far as I am concerned, if they want to be known as the Democratic Party, it's all right with me.

Q. Lloyd M. Schwartz, Fairchild Publications: The Bureau of Labor Statistics consumer price index has risen about 2 percent in the last 2 months since May 15th. I wonder if you find this a cause for concern.

THE PRESIDENT. Of course, whenever the cost of living goes up, it is a cause for concern. I don't think it is quite 2 percent, but I will call your attention to this: that over the past 3½ years it has been, I believe, slightly below 3 percent; that, compared with the prior 3 years, is a terrific accomplishment. It's been done by hard work and very great care in reducing expendi-

tures, in the balancing of budgets, and trying to keep our dollar sound.

Q. Charles W. Roberts, *Newsweek*: Mr. President, you have expressed the hope that the Suez settlement could be made in an atmosphere of calm deliberation. Do you regard the French movement of ships and troops into Cyprus as consistent with that aim?

THE PRESIDENT. I am not going to comment on the actions of any other government.

For ourselves, we are determined to exhaust every possible, every feasible method of peaceful settlement. We believe it can be done, and I am not going to comment on what other people are doing. I am very hopeful that this particular proposal will be accepted but, in any event, not to give up, even if we do run into other obstacles.

Q. Chalmers M. Roberts, *Washington Post and Times Herald*: Mr. President, in that connection, sir, can you tell us whether, since the Egyptian nationalization of the canal, you have given any orders to our own military forces in the area in connection with this act?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I can tell you this: I have done nothing that isn't absolutely consistent with what I have just said. We are committed to a peaceful settlement of this dispute, nothing else.

Q. Peter Lisagor, *Chicago Daily News*: Mr. President, you have said in the past that you didn't think a President seeking a second term should go barnstorming. Can you tell us whether you have changed your mind about that now?

THE PRESIDENT. No, I have not, not so far as barnstorming is concerned. That doesn't mean that, if I so chose, I couldn't go to an area other than in Washington to make a significant political speech.

In 1952, as I recall, I traveled some 52,000 miles. Wasn't that about right? [*Confers with Mr. Hagerty*]

Fifty-two thousand by plane and 32—he says 32,000 by something else.

Maybe some of you people know better than I. Anyway, it was a long distance. That is what I call barnstorming, and that I am not going to do.

Q. Charles E. Shutt, Telenews: It was reported in San Francisco, sir, that you had finally said that you like politics, and I was wondering if, during the campaign, sir, that it might be possible that you might take one train ride through some areas where you thought it might help, during the coming campaign.

THE PRESIDENT. I think it would be foolish of me to say now I will or I won't do just this, because circumstances might arise that make it look very advisable to do something. I just don't intend to use my time going on what I call a whistlestopping talk.

Q. J. Anthony Lewis, New York Times: Mr. President, the State Department has announced your approval of its prohibition on American correspondents going to Communist China. Most newspapers seem to be taking the view that their sending reporters to Communist China would not signify approval, but would simply be a way to get the facts on that country to the United States. I wonder if you could tell us what led you to your views?

THE PRESIDENT. Yes, I can tell you. No one in the world would rather send American newspapers, everybody here that wanted to go, to China than I would. I believe in the exchange of information, exchange of visitors of all kinds, and particularly, representatives of publicity media.

But for over a year we have the spectacle of the Communist Chinese holding a group of our prisoners as sort of hostages; and then they want, by holding them, to get us to make some other move that apparently is to be interpreted as meaning we have accepted that, and we are not going to be protesting it.

As long as those men are kept as sort of hostages for an advance in our relationships with the Chinese, I simply can't go along with it.

Q. Charles S. von Fremd, CBS News: Mr. President, your doctors tell us now, sir, that you are no longer in a convalescent state. Do you feel as well now as you did before your most recent illness?

THE PRESIDENT. Yes, I do. As you know, you have to get used to playing golf again or taking any strenuous exercise. Both in swimming and golfing, I haven't yet gotten back onto my former schedule, but I am trying to.

Q. McLellan Smith, Delaware State News: Sunday evening, in a "Meet the Press" television program, Under Secretary of Labor Arthur Larson was asked if the New Republicanism which he wrote so enthusiastically about in his book was just his own idea of your political philosophy or was it the President's idea, was it the President's political philosophy; and Mr. Larson answered "definitely it is his," meaning your policy. Is that your political philosophy as outlined in his book?

THE PRESIDENT. Let me say this: I read the book, but I can't recall every detail that's in it, and so my answer cannot be taken as holding up my right hand to say "I stand by every statement." But in general, I thought he expressed my philosophy of government as well as I have seen it in a book that size.

Q. Mr. Smith: One other question, Mr. President. The discussion came up of the legislation of New Deal days, such as social security, Securities and Exchange Act, and about 10 or 12 others. Mr. Larson was asked if these are not socialism now under the New Republicanism, why were they socialism back in the days of Old Republicanism, when the Republicans in Congress so bitterly fought them and labeled them as socialism. Mr. Larson expressed ignorance of Republican opposition in other days, but the records show that there was intense Republican opposition.

Now, if we have a reversal here, if New Republicanism is reversing the Old Republicanism, doesn't the New Republicanism become an extension of New Dealism?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I am probably lost in your question.
[*Laughter*]

I will say this: the world moves, and ideas that were good once are not always good. I believe it was Tennyson that said: "The old order changeth and giveth place to new, . . . lest one good custom should corrupt the earth."

Now, what we have got to remember is that civilization moves in little bits of steps, makes little advances. We have gotten into the type of civilization now where the Government must interest itself more in the old age security, in unemployment insurance, and all that sort of thing, than it was once.

I believe in it, I stand for it, and I don't care who brought it up. Indeed, I will tell you, ladies and gentlemen, something: often we hear the expression when we talk about a man we believe that is well to the right, we talk about, "Why, he was to the right of McKinley." The other day I read the last speech that McKinley ever made, the day before he was shot, and it was a plea for reciprocal trade treaties, and ended up—not ended up, but had this sentence in it: "Isolation is no longer possible or desirable."

This was, of course, back in 1901.

Q. John L. Steele, *Time Magazine*: Mr. President, I wonder if you would comment on the action taken this week by the Executive Council of the AFL-CIO, which endorsed your rival for the Presidency?

THE PRESIDENT. I have no comment at all. In 1952 they did it separately. This time, they got together. I was very proud of the people that didn't want to do any such thing.

Q. Sarah McClendon, *Austin American-Statesman*: Sir, the REA's rural electric cooperatives say that they are going to make quite a campaign issue over some of the power policies of some of your administrators. Now, one of the things they object to is this business of reallocating and reassessing the power costs of Federal projects. They say that is like raising the mortgage on a

house after the house is bought. I wonder if you would comment on that?

THE PRESIDENT. I haven't heard this particular complaint before. But if it comes up in any serious way, it will be brought to me by the Administrator, of course, of REA, and I will have my chance at it when I see all of the sides. I haven't heard of it before.

Q. Marvin L. Arrowsmith, Associated Press: Mr. President, Marvin Arrowsmith of the AF of—AP [*Laughter*—perhaps I should say of the Associated Press to clear up any misunderstanding.

Are you satisfied with the civil rights plank in the platform as it deals with school segregation? It has been generally regarded as somewhat of a compromise.

THE PRESIDENT. Well, Mr. Arrowsmith, I am not going again into the full discussion of what I believe about this subject. I think that no plank could satisfy everybody exactly. It couldn't possibly be done.

Here is a problem, as I have said a thousand times, that is charged with emotionalism, where everybody has got to work hard with all of the strength he has; and I think that the more that that work is done privately and behind the scenes rather than charging up on the platform and hammering desks, the better and more effective it will be.

I believe we have got to have good will and understanding for all. We are not going to settle this thing finally by a great show of force and arbitrary action.

Q. Fletcher Knebel, Cowles Publications: Mr. President, some of your supporters are expressing alarm at intimations from Washington that this is to be a high level campaign, meaning not assaulting the Democrats, I assume, and that it might lead to a 1948 catastrophe like Governor Dewey! How do you feel about this?

THE PRESIDENT. As I have said before, this administration has a record. I am going to stand on that record, but I am going to

make certain that as accurately as I know how to do it that record is made forcefully clear to the American people. I am going to show what we are trying to do in the future, and to let the record and the way we have attempted to carry out every promise we have ever made be the earnest of what we intend to do and how we intend to do it in the future.

Now, there is going to be no lack of candor in bringing out, as I say, every item of truth about this matter that I possibly can. That does not mean that I am going to indulge in petty name-calling and making phrases to belittle someone. I don't believe in it.

Q. Don Whitehead, New York Herald Tribune: Mr. President, this past week the leadership of the AFL-CIO endorsed the Democratic ticket. Would you give us your thinking on what you think the influence this will have on the outcome of the election, and if this will sway a majority of the labor vote?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, of course, for me to guess on that is a guess that is better than no one else's, but they did the same thing separately in 1952.

Q. Mrs. May Craig, Portland (Maine) Press Herald: Mr. President, in California some farm economists are meeting. One professor said that neither party is attacking the basic farm problem, which they say is that with modern production methods we have too many farmers, and that the Government should be helping to move excess farmers back into business and into industry, and he hopes that after the election, whichever party is elected will do that.

THE PRESIDENT. And what is your question? [*Laughter*]

Q. Mrs. Craig: You have me there.

THE PRESIDENT. Mrs. Craig, I think that an economist can make a case for exactly what you say in the same way an economist could make a case for big business against small business. But we believe that things can become too centralized in our economic life in this country, and we go to great extent and sometimes at our economic cost, that is, considering the whole

Nation, to keep these things competitive, to keep them in smaller units and not to let them get so big that they have control over us.

I suppose if you just let agriculture go, you would drift in the direction of the big commercialized farm.

I don't intend ever to cease my support of the small farmer, for the simple reason that I think it is just representative of what the American nation has tried to do from its beginning, and that is to look after this little fellow that is having some trouble in competing with the big one.

Q. John Scali, Associated Press: Mr. President, last Thursday the Chinese Communists apparently shot down one of our planes off the China Coast. Could you tell us what you have learned as a result of the investigation into that incident?

THE PRESIDENT. The investigations and evaluations of such information as they have been able to get are still going ahead, and I think that some time within the next 24 hours an exhaustive statement is to be made.

Q. Carleton Kent, Chicago Sun Times: Mr. President, a number of your supporters in San Francisco and here have said that they anticipate a tougher fight from the Democratic ticket this fall than in 1952. Would you give us your evaluation of the campaign?

THE PRESIDENT. I doubt whether I have an evaluation that would be worthwhile taking up a great deal of time to explain.

I stand on this: I have worked along a particular line that I think is absolutely discernible to the average American citizen. I am doing my best with that; so is this administration. The mass of the Republican Party is doing the same.

If they want it, and as it is explained to them and they are reminded of its accomplishments as well as some of the things it didn't get done, they will decide what they want, and I just think there is very little use guessing.

I do say that I am not going to be guilty of failure to lay the whole thing out in exact detail so far as I can, and I certainly hope the whole Republican Party will do the same.

Q. James Deakin, St. Louis Post-Dispatch: Mr. President, the Democratic National Committee has said point blank that it will make an issue of your health in the campaign. In light of that, you have said you are going to go before the American people with a full-scale explanation of your current health.

THE PRESIDENT. A what?

Q. Mr. Deakin: A full-scale discussion of your current health. You said you were going to go——

THE PRESIDENT. No, I didn't say that.

Q. Mr. Deakin: Some time between now and the November election?

THE PRESIDENT. I said I would go for a full-scale examination and the doctors could put out what they chose.

Q. Mr. Deakin: You will not discuss it?

THE PRESIDENT. All I am discussing is when I am here. If you people think I am healthy, you can say so. If you think I am not healthy, O. K.

Q. Ray L. Scherer, National Broadcasting Company: Mr. President, was televising your news conference last week a one-shot proposition, or may we look for more of such?

THE PRESIDENT. You mean——

Q. Mr. Scherer: At San Francisco.

THE PRESIDENT. I think, as far as I know, that was sort of one-shot in this way. There came up an item that I wanted to announce quickly. I went before the press conference, and because it was a convention and I was not totally an unimportant figure in that convention city at that time, they chose to come in there and do it live. I have heard nothing further of the thing at all.

Merriman Smith, United Press: Thank you, Mr. President.

NOTE: President Eisenhower's ninety-third news conference was held in the Executive Office Building from 10:31 to 10:54 o'clock on Friday morning, August 31, 1956. In attendance: 186.

194 ¶ Remarks at Ceremonies Marking Issuance
of Stamp Honoring American Labor.

September 1, 1956

Secretary Mitchell, General Summerfield, President Meany, Members of the McGuire family, friends gathered here, my fellow citizens:

It is a rare privilege indeed to participate in the dedication of a Stamp that is designed as a tribute to American labor. It is an attempt on the part of the Post Office and of the artist to put in symbolic form the respect and admiration we have for that vast army of people who with their hearts, their minds, their hands, have in the past and are now developing all of the wealth of America. They are its producers.

Now, as President Meany has said, in America labor is free. It is because we have free governmental institutions in this country—a form of life based upon human liberty and human dignity. And so labor is free to work at the job of its own choice, to worship, to think, to speak—just as all other Americans—to retain its earnings for the benefit of each individual and his family and his community; to bargain collectively. This so priceless privilege is something that men did not gain without effort. And it cannot be retained without effort.

Someone once said, “The mind, like steel, keeps bright through use.”

I am quite certain that we can transfer that meaning to freedom and to liberty. Freedom will remain ours if we use it. Each citizen of our country, if he is free, has a comparable responsibility. He must do his part. He must go through the processes of voting and doing every other thing in our country that means he is really ready to do his part as an American citizen. In so doing he will make certain that freedom remains with us strong—ever stronger—as the years roll on.

Now quite naturally labor in our country has always rightfully striven for a rising standard of living, just as every other American. And it is sometimes well to pause for a moment and to think how far—under this system of freedom, with intelligent working men—how far we have come, with sixty-six million people employed at the highest real wages that have been experienced in the world's history. In so doing they have produced the strongest economy, an economy whose productivity is the envy of the world—and I am proud to say the terror of any who would be our enemies.

Moreover, as the years have rolled on, and with governmental cooperation and leadership, there has been built around all labor a system of protection represented in our old age security, unemployment insurance, minimum wage laws, and the rights for collective bargaining.

Labor—like all other Americans—wants peace. It needs peace—requires peace. It must be ready to work for peace, just as do all others. I am happy to pay tribute to the great results that have been achieved through labor in advancing this cause.

Wanting to dwell with greater opportunity for the pursuit of happiness, it has applied itself in such a way that other nations—working men and women in other corners of the world—have examined its methods, its opportunities, and have indeed wanted to copy them. It has been quick to make its skills available to the working men and women of other nations.

Labor has, therefore, been doing far more than working merely for its own continuous rise in living standards. It has helped others both in America and abroad.

It has helped create respect for the ideals of freedom and of human dignity. And it is today the greatest enemy of enslaved labor in any corner of the earth of which I am aware.

America is fortunate in its labor force—which I like to believe is all of us.

This stamp bears a slogan from Carlyle, "Labor is Life." Cer-

tainly we can say truthfully: A free labor is a free America—the great ideal of all of us.

Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke on the south lawn of the White House. His opening words referred to Secretary of Labor James P. Mitchell, Postmaster General Arthur E. Summerfield, George Meany, President of the AFL-CIO, and members of the family of Peter J. McGuire, co-founder of the American Federation of Labor and founder of Labor Day.

195 ¶ Statement by the President: Labor Day. *September 3, 1956*

ON THIS Labor Day 1956, America enjoys unprecedented opportunity. This opportunity is the result of the great God-given forces which quicken our Nation's progress. Today we celebrate the most fundamental of those great forces—labor. The working men and women of the United States have built our country and they provide vivid testimony to the world of the strength of our free government.

While our progress has been inspiring, we cannot rest on our accomplishments. There is much to be done to meet the opportunities ahead.

There are more than 66 million men and women employed in the United States but there are still those who seek a job and cannot find one. As long as this is so, the Government must seek to perfect its ways of helping people find jobs and providing security for those who are unemployed through no fault of their own.

Our skilled work force is the greatest in the world but it is not large enough to meet the ever-growing demands of our Nation. This is an opportunity which labor and management, education and Government, and all vital segments of our society must meet.

We are a Nation blessed with freedom and proud of our democracy, and we have advanced toward equality of economic and employment opportunities, but this task is not complete. There is more for all of us to do in securing the right of each American to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

On this Labor Day 1956, let us fix our eyes upon the future, confident that we can make our land an even better place in which to live full and useful lives.

196 ¶ Statement by the President on Making
Public a Report by Secretary of Labor James P.
Mitchell. *September 3, 1956*

THIS REPORT, outlining the present status of the welfare of the working men and women as of Labor Day, 1956, is personally gratifying to me, as it will be to all our citizens.

The constant improvement of the economic strength and welfare of American workers has been one of the main objectives of the Administration. As this strength improves so does the strength of the entire nation.

The progress of the working men and women in America toward ever better conditions serves also as an example to the rest of the world of the benefits that can be accomplished by free labor under a free government.

NOTE: Secretary Mitchell's report is in the form of a letter, dated September 3, 1956, summarizing the benefits gained by American workers during the President's first term. In closing, the Secretary noted that the

level of the economy had never been higher in peace or war and that the take-home pay of the factory worker had increased by more than eight dollars and a half a week.

197 ¶ Telegram to Adlai E. Stevenson Offering
Him Access to Special Intelligence Information.

September 4, 1956

The Honorable Adlai E. Stevenson
Libertyville, Illinois

Because you are the designated candidate of one of the major parties for the Presidency of the United States, I believe it to conform to the country's interests, and I would hope to your desire, for you to have periodic briefings on the international scene from a responsible official in the Central Intelligence Agency. To meet your requirements in this matter, on the assumption that you should like such information, I have already directed the Acting Director of the Central Intelligence Agency, General Cabell, to arrange details with you or with some designated member of your staff. I would suggest weekly briefings whenever this seems practicable to you.

Of course I need not say that the information itself would be of a secret character and exclusively for your personal knowledge. Otherwise, however, the receipt of such information would impose no obligation of any kind upon you.

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

198 ¶ The President's News Conference of
September 5, 1956.

THE PRESIDENT. Please be seated.

Before starting this morning, I think it is appropriate for me to express, on behalf of all of us, our very deep regret that Tony Leviero will not be here in these meetings any more.

I knew him in the war as an officer, since then through my personal contacts here; and I am sure that all of the rest of you

that knew him had the same respect for him and admiration and liking that I did.

We will go to questions.

Q. Marvin L. Arrowsmith, Associated Press: Mr. President, are you in a position yet to tell us something about your campaign plans beyond this meeting a week from today at Gettysburg? For example, can you tell us when you will make your first nationwide TV and radio address?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, of course, you have a number of invitations you have to consider. Tentatively, and I wouldn't put this down as the law of the Medes and Persians, but tentatively I want to accept an invitation to go to this year's Ploughville, which is at Newton, Iowa, to visit that day with the community that will be representative of agriculture, in which part of our economy I have so much interest.

I will not make a major address there. I am going there to visit with friends for the day. About a week later I expect to make a major address to the Nation, and probably the major subject of that address will be dealing with the agricultural community and economy.

Now, beyond that I haven't gone for the moment.

Q. Merriman Smith, United Press: Mr. President, first, sir, could you give us the date on the Newton, Iowa, appearance?

THE PRESIDENT. Let me see—it's Friday, I think—[*confers with Mr. Hagerty*]*—*Jim says he thinks it's the 21st, and I believe that is the date.

Q. Mr. Smith: Well then, that would mean, sir, then you make your major speech on the 27th or the 28th?

THE PRESIDENT. Somewhere along on that line.

Q. Mr. Smith: And where will that be, sir?

THE PRESIDENT. That I am not quite sure yet.

[*Confers with Mr. Hagerty*]

Oh, yes—excuse me—I did forget one point. I think that probably right after Gettysburg, within a week, I may make a

very short address which will not be before a great group, crowd, such as I was mentioning but sort of a studio address.

Q. Pat Munroe, Florida Times-Union: Mr. President, the Democrats are giving special treatment to the few southern States you carried in '52. For instance, Senator Kefauver will be barnstorming in GOP strongholds in Florida next week. Are you disturbed by their activity?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I am not disturbed, no. I applaud their efforts to get out and work for every vote they can get.

The only thing that I would like to see is every American vote. I have got unlimited faith in America as long as America will express itself. And if everybody will get out and register and vote, why, I should say, let them carry their message in their own way to every corner of the land. Certainly before it is done, I think our own group will do the same.

Q. Charles W. Roberts, Newsweek: Mr. President, yesterday, in commenting on some remarks of Adlai Stevenson, your Press Secretary said the Democrats would rather have unemployment for purely partisan reasons to try to win a few votes. Do you agree with this characterization of the party?

THE PRESIDENT. From all I have heard of that incident it seems to be a great deal of misquotation, and I am not even sure that yours is exactly correct. But I will let you go to him, as he advised, I believe, that you should go to another individual, to get his interpretation of his statement. So you go back to the Press Secretary.

Q. Robert E. Clark, International News Service: Mr. President, there have been several instances of violence and near violence on the segregation issue as the fall school term begins. In some cases Negro children are risking physical injury to attend school. Do you think there is anything that can be said or done on the national level to help local communities meet this problem without violence?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, in each case I think the local governments have moved promptly to stop the violence. And let us

remember this: under the law the Federal Government cannot, on the ordinary normal case of keeping order and preventing rioting, cannot move into a State until the State is not able to handle the matter.

Now, in the Texas case the attorney for the students did report this violence and asked help, which apparently was the result of unreadiness to obey a Federal court order. But before anyone could move the Texas authorities had moved in and order was restored, so the question became unimportant.

Q. Sarah McClendon, *El Paso Times*: Mr. President, in doing so, Governor Allan Shivers sent Rangers to defy the court order, reassign out the Negro pupils, and said in a public statement which was carried in the newspapers, "I defy the Federal Government." He said, "Tell the Federal courts if they want to come after anyone, to come after me and cite me in this matter." I wonder if you have discussed this with anyone in the Department of Justice?

THE PRESIDENT. I have not discussed it because you are quoting both an order that I have not read and a statement that I have not seen.

We have actually sent for the district court order to know what it says. I don't know what it says. Remember that the Supreme Court placed in the hands of the district judges the primary responsibility for insuring that progress in every sector was made.

Now, just exactly what Governor Shivers said I don't know. This is the first I have heard of it.

Q. Carleton Kent, *Chicago Sun-Times*: Mr. President, when you accepted the Foreign Affairs Intelligence Reports from Mr. Truman in 1952 it was with a stipulation that you would still feel free to criticize his conduct of foreign policy. Did you find during the campaign that your knowledge of those reports changed your attitude any? Did it make you more or less critical?

THE PRESIDENT. No, I didn't, Mr. Kent, but for a very peculiar reason.

You must remember that up until June of 1952 I was in the middle of the military organization that had access to all of the type of information that I could possibly get; so the additional information that I received, because of my peculiar status, was very limited, indeed.

But I did make it clear to Mr. Stevenson that while the information itself was of a secret character and could be imparted to no one else, that he was under no obligation otherwise.

Q. John L. Steele, *Time Magazine*: Mr. President, referring back to Mr. Clark's question of a moment ago, regardless of politics, you seem to have a tremendous reservoir of good will on the part of young people all over the country. With the schools opening up this week and next in places of serious tension, I wonder if there is anything you would like to say through us to the younger people who are going to school regarding this problem?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I can say what I have said so often: it is difficult through law and through force to change a man's heart. It seems to me that all of us who are so interested in this question of equality of rights regardless of religion and of race and color should do more about it. I try to miss no opportunity to urge people—I have done it; I have asked the clergy in, and I have asked them to help. I have asked educators in, I have asked them to help. Whenever I see a governor I ask him to help.

But I do believe that we must all, regardless of our calling in this world, help to bring about a change in spirit so that extremists on both sides do not defeat what we know is a reasonable, logical conclusion to this whole affair, which is recognition of the equality of men.

The South is full of people of good will, but they are not the ones we now hear. We hear the people that are adamant and are so filled with prejudice that they even resort to violence; and the same way on the other side of the thing, the people who want to have the whole matter settled today.

This is a question of leading and training and teaching people, and it takes some time, unfortunately.

Q. Arthur Sylvester, Newark (N. J.) News: Mr. President, in view of your statement just now, do you endorse the finding of the Supreme Court on segregation or merely accept it as the Republican platform does?

THE PRESIDENT. I think it makes no difference whether or not I endorse it. The Constitution is as the Supreme Court interprets it; and I must conform to that and do my very best to see that it is carried out in this country.

Q. A. Eliyahu Salpeter, Haaretz, Tel Aviv: Mr. President, last week you described, through Mr. Dulles, the terms set forth in the 18-nation conference in London as indispensable to the restoration of confidence that the Suez Canal will continue to serve its purpose. Does this mean that the United States will support Britain and France if they insist on nothing less than the London proposals?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I am not going to comment on the contents of that proposal while it is being discussed in Cairo.

I will repeat what I have said, I think, each week here before this body: the United States is committed to a peaceful solution of this problem, and one that will insure to all nations the free use of the canal for the shipping of the world, whether in peace or in war, as contemplated by the 1888 convention.

Q. Robert L. Riggs, Louisville Courier-Journal: Mr. President, returning to Mr. Hagerty's incident yesterday, in the last few weeks the Press Secretary has evolved into more than a mouthpiece for the President. He has become a policy man himself. As a result, at the Democratic Convention, the key-note, Governor Clement said of you, "He cannot Jim Hagertyize his way through this campaign."

Now, what I wanted to ask was whether the Press Secretary has become—his function to speak on his own, or is he only your spokesman, sir?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, he is not—I don't think he is exclusively either one, because he is certainly not my sole spokesman; and he is also an intelligent, capable staff officer who cannot be expected on every question to come in and ask me verbatim what my answer is to every question, and carry it out to the press.

Now, for my part, he has done his job well. And I say in this one, you just go back to him and talk to him about it.

Q. John Herling, Editors Syndicate: Mr. President, yesterday Mr. Emil Rieve, who is the leader of the American Textile Workers Union, told a British Trade Unions Congress now in session that President Eisenhower has learned "what little he knows about the domestic economy from the big businessmen, the big bankers, and the big manufacturers whom he so greatly admires." Do you care, sir, to comment on this estimate of your position and how do you think this compares with the new Republicanism now being advocated?

THE PRESIDENT. I don't think I will comment. If that man has that opinion—first of all, I doubt whether that is his real opinion. But if it is, why, he may express it.

Q. Martin S. Hayden, Detroit News: Mr. President, Labor Day in Michigan every Democratic speaker somewhere in his speech said, "We are losing the cold war," just as a flat statement. I would like to ask you, sir, do you think we are losing the cold war?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, ladies and gentlemen, we have gone over this a number of times.

Why can't we take the situation of January 1953 and compare it with today? The French then were involved in a hopelessly losing war in Indochina, with the prospects repeated to me time and time again, that we were going to lose the whole peninsula, possibly to include the Kra Peninsula.

It was settled on a basis that at least gave the free world a firm foothold and under stronger leadership that has been there,

and we have removed the taint of colonialism from any assistance that is given in that area.

The Korean War was going on, and under conditions where it was impossible to win; we were fighting and suffering losses merely to hold the line that we then had. It was settled, and we still hold that line.

Every week, if you will look up your own headlines of those days, we were expecting to lose Iran to the Tudeh Party in that country, which was communistic. The problem was settled.

Trieste was a point of great friction and great uneasiness to the free world, and that problem has been settled.

Austria was divided, and we couldn't seem to do anything about it. That has been settled.

Guatemala finally brought us all sorts of trouble. Communism was repelled there.

Now, all over the world there have been advances of that kind.

At the same time, there has been a change in the whole Russian Soviet approach to this problem. They have changed into more, apparently, of an economic propaganda plan rather than depending upon force and the threat of force. This requires intelligent, fast work on our side to put our own case better before the world and to operate better, and I think that that change has been made or is being made effectively, and that the Soviets are not doing as well in this new plan as they first thought they could.

Now, all the way through these things have occurred. Some of them have been not too fortunate, but some have been advances.

Notably, the Israel-Arab question has very little progress, although at one time we thought the Johnston plan had been fully accepted—and it was fully accepted in a technical way; it was merely the political aspects that kept it from being approved.

So I would say that the situation for the free world is a stronger one today than it was in January 1953, and I don't see how anyone can look at the facts as they exist and deny that.

Q. William H. Lawrence, *New York Times*: Mr. President, in

your association, sir, with Jacob Javits as a Republican, as a Member of Congress, and as an elected official of what was until recently your home State, have you formed any opinion, sir, as to his patriotism, his loyalty, and his character?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, Mr. Lawrence, you can know a person a long time and not know him too deeply. Therefore, I will give you my opinion, my feeling, my reaction, but certainly it is not something that I can prove.

I first met Mr. Javits, as I remember, when he was part of a body of Congressmen who urged me to run for the Presidency when I was still a soldier, and at least I thought he was a man of great discernment then. You can understand that. [*Laughter*]

Now, from that time on I ran into him occasionally. I have never heard him say anything except expressed in terms of the greatest concern for the United States, for the people of the United States, for the little fellow who he seems to represent so ably; and I have never heard him say a word that wasn't that of a loyal, fine American. I was pleased that he volunteered or asked for permission to appear before some committee down here to go into the charges that have been made against him.

That is what I know about Mr. Javits, and as of this moment I think he is a fine American.

Now, if I am proved wrong, I would be greatly astonished.

Q. Laurence H. Burd, Chicago Tribune: Mr. President, Governor Stratton of Illinois told us at San Francisco that he had asked you to come to Illinois during the campaign. Is that still open or do you plan to go there?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I can't say for sure, but certainly Illinois is one of the States that is under consideration for one of my very infrequent trips, journeys, from this city during the course of the campaign.

But I must say that although Governor Stratton did do that, and I was very appreciative, a lot of governors did the same thing.

Q. Chalmers M. Roberts, *Washington Post and Times Herald*: Mr. President, in connection with meeting the Russian economic policy changes, some months ago, I believe, both you and Secretary Dulles indicated that you were going to appoint a committee to study or reappraise American foreign economic policy. As yet, nothing has been announced. Is that idea still alive?

THE PRESIDENT. Yes. I am meeting the Committee this morning.

Q. Mr. Roberts: Is that the Randall Group or a special group?

THE PRESIDENT. No; a special group—meeting them this morning.

Q. Mr. Roberts: Will there be an announcement of that group?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, if there has been no announcement yet, it will be made, I have no doubt, when they come in to see me this morning.

Q. Robert G. Spivack, *New York Post*: Mr. President, I don't want to labor this point, but I would like to return to the civil rights matter for just one moment.

Governor Shivers, when he made his announcement last week, ordered the removal of Negro students from the Mansfield School after mob action had been in effect in that area. I wonder if you think that that is a surrender to mob rule?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, you don't know for how long he has ordered this. I don't know whether he has ordered the permanent transfer of these people or until the situation is under control.

I want to re-emphasize this: certainly every liberal will be very jealous of protecting the locality's right to execute the police power in this country.

When police power is executed habitually and exercised habitually by the Federal Government, we are in a bad way. So until States show their inability or their refusal to grapple with this question properly, which they haven't yet, at least as any proof has been submitted, we'd better be very careful about moving in and exercising police power.

Q. Ray L. Scherer, National Broadcasting Company: Mr. President, may we have your views on the general proposition that a President known to be serving his last term suffers a certain erosion in power and influence?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, Ray, it's perfectly obvious I don't know anything about it from experience. [*Laughter*] I haven't been that kind of a President.

I would say this: the American people seem to support pretty firmly anyone that they believe is honest and working for all the people, and that I think is the reason that the charge is hurled at a man so often that he is a special interest President, that he is either for the rich or he is for somebody else, for the bald-headed people or any other group. [*Laughter*]

What I am trying to say is I believe that any President, as long as he is honestly and earnestly trying to serve 168 million people, is not going to be without influence.

Q. Paul Scott Rankine, Reuters: Mr. President, could you tell us about this group you are meeting with this morning? Is that at Cabinet level or is that an unofficial level?

THE PRESIDENT. This is a group I have asked to meet with me from civil life. They are not governmental officials.

Q. Charles E. Shutt, Telenews: Mr. President, Senator Mansfield apparently does not agree with the state of the world conditions as you recently outlined, and has suggested that it might be time for another Summit conference. You have met with the powers, including the Russians, in the past, during times of stress. Would you say it would be advisable to meet with them during a rather peaceful interlude to continue the peaceful times as you indicate we now have?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, as I recall, the period of the Geneva Conference could certainly have been classified as one of rather peaceful interlude. Now, in that one, it is true that the American delegation—I personally—placed before the Russians the great problems of today that must be solved before we could agree that there was a promise stretching out before us of a

truly peaceful world: the rights of all of the enslaved countries of Europe to vote for governments of their own choice under free elections, the foreswearing of force, the general and effective means of disarmament, the reuniting of countries that are divided, the inspection of each country to make sure that limitations on security measures were effectively carried out.

All of those things have been laid before them, and as of this moment I wouldn't see any advantage to be gained by merely renewing the opportunity to lay that before them, because it's never been fixed otherwise, never been stated otherwise.

Q. Clark R. Mollenhoff, *Des Moines Register and Tribune*: Mr. President, in the last week the AFL-CIO leadership has come out against your administration, and Mr. Reuther specifically was rather critical on the special interest charge over the weekend. I wonder if you could tell us specifically, rather than the general prosperity, as to why the rank and file of labor should desert their leadership and should vote for the Republican administration?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I don't know why they should do it, because they could have any number of reasons for believing that someone else should take my position, any number that might seem important to them. But if they base it merely upon the economy of this country, which they are seeming to do, and the dispersion of the productivity of this country, the products that have been produced, to all our people, then they are on very weak ground because the statistics can prove that they are absolutely wrong.

And I must say I received one letter only yesterday that came to me from a man who was in a union in New Jersey, and he protested in the bitterest terms the efforts of his leaders to tell him how he should vote.

He said, "I will obey my leaders in everything that touches labor. If they tell me to strike, I will strike, even if I don't agree. I will go hungry, as I have, many times. I will obey every order

they give me in the labor field. But no one can tell me how to vote.”

And I think that is probably a very good American spirit.

Q. Peter Lisagor, *Chicago Daily News*: Mr. President, do you have any plans to meet with Prime Minister Nehru of India before the election?

THE PRESIDENT. I think it's been published that my invitation to Mr. Nehru has been renewed, and he was very receptive to the idea. But I believe we have been unable so far to fix the exact time.

After all, the election is now about 2 months away, and I think it would be rather unusual if it could be done before that.

Q. Essell P. Thomas, Jr., *Charlotte Observer*: Mr. President, there have been reports that the United States is urging Japan to cut her cotton textile exports to the United States even below this year's level in 1957. I wonder if you could confirm this?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, that hasn't been reported to me. What I do get in is reports of the cotton, raw cotton, consumption in Japan; and, of course, there is some shipping back here of textiles, and many individuals in the textile industry believe that this is in too great volume.

Now, they haven't reported to me on it, and I have had nothing from the Tariff Commission.

Q. S. Douglass Cater, Jr., *Reporter Magazine*: Mr. Walter Reuther has petitioned the Atomic Energy Committee—the Commission, that is—on behalf of the United Automobile Workers living in the Detroit area to hold a public hearing on the building of this atomic reactor at Monroe, Mich. He cites the report of the Atomic Energy Commission's Safety Committee that this reactor will, might possibly be dangerous. He says that it should be aired in public. Do you believe that such a hearing should be held?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I don't know at this moment of any reason why it should not be held. But I do know this: the reason they took so long in studying that plan was to make certain that

there could be no chance of any accident of the kind the people have discussed occurring in connection with it.

Q. Charles W. Bailey II, Minneapolis Star and Tribune: Mr. President, in relation to something you said last week at your conference, I wonder if you could tell us how you happened to be reading the speech of President McKinley?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I read a lot of these things, and I saw in a book by a man named Moos, which was the history of the Republican Party, some reference to the great speech of President McKinley. I sent to the Republican Library and got—to the Congressional Library—[*laughter*]*—now I suppose I will be accused of putting the Library in partisan politics. [Laughter]* I sent to the Congressional Library, got this speech and read it.

Merriman Smith, United Press: Thank you, Mr. President.

NOTE: President Eisenhower's ninety-fourth news conference was held in the Executive Office Building from 10:30 to 10:59 o'clock on Wednesday morning, September 5, 1956. In attendance: 191.

199 ¶ Statement by the President on the Death of Frank A. Nixon. *September 5, 1956*

THE NEWS of the passing of Frank A. Nixon, father of the Vice President, is sad news indeed. I know how much the Vice President will miss him. Mrs. Eisenhower and I extend to the Vice President and all members of his family our heartfelt sympathies on the great personal loss he has sustained.

200 ¶ Statement by the President on the Occasion of Rosh Hashana. *September 5, 1956*

AT THIS SEASON when men and women of the Jewish Faith sit in judgment on themselves, reviewing their personal practice of moral and religious precepts during the year just ended, I join

with my fellow Americans of all faiths in cordial greetings to them.

Rosh Hashana is significant to every American for, in the deepest spiritual sense, we are all of the seed of Abraham and Isaac. Our moral code, the ideals that animate us, the faith in God that strengthens us—all these were most clearly and most inspiringly proclaimed many centuries ago by men of Jewish blood.

Their descendants, in race and in faith, have contributed greatly to the knowledge and the skills and the culture of America. In war, they have freely given their lives for the preservation of the Republic. In peace, they have contributed greatly to the advancement of the general welfare.

At this Rosh Hashana, I know that all Americans join with me in best wishes to their fellow citizens—their friends and neighbors—of the Jewish Faith.

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

201 ¶ Telegram to the Chairman of the
Foundation for Religious Action in the Social and
Civil Order. *September 7, 1956*

[Released September 7, 1956. Dated September 6, 1956]

*Dr. Charles Wesley Lowry
Chairman and Executive Director
Foundation for Religious Action
in the Social and Civil Order
Washington, D. C.*

Greetings to Professor Elliott and guests of the Foundation for Religious Action in the Social and Civil Order as they discuss the subject of Communism in the Educational Curriculum.

As the new school year opens, with the largest enrollment at every educational level in American history, our teachers are presented with a matchless opportunity to teach the truth freely.

The competition for men's minds begins when they are students. This is when they must be taught to discriminate between truth and falsehood. Specifically, this is when they must be taught to discriminate between the American form of Government and the Soviet form. When they have all the facts, I am confident they will make the correct choice, as they have for the past one hundred eighty-one years.

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

NOTE: Professor William Yandell Elliott, Professor of Government at Harvard University, was Chairman of the Commission on American Education and Communism established by the Foundation.

202 ¶ Letter to Sherman Minton Regarding His Retirement as an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court. *September 7, 1956*

Dear Mr. Justice:

Thank you very much for giving me timely notice that, because of your health, you will retire on October fifteenth. May I be permitted to express my appreciation of the many years you have given to public service on the Federal Bench, culminating in your service on the Supreme Court?

I trust you will find your life in retirement to be filled both with contentment and good health.

With personal regard,

Sincerely,

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

NOTE: Justice Minton's letter, dated September 7, 1956, follows:

Dear Mr. President:

Several months ago I informed the Chief Justice and my colleagues that, by reason of the condition of my health, I would retire this Fall.

I have passed the age of sixty-five

and have served continuously on the Federal Bench for more than fifteen years. My retirement is authorized by 28 U. S. C. 371 (b) (1952). Accordingly, pursuant to such statute I shall retire on October 15, 1956.

Very respectfully yours,

SHERMAN MINTON

203 ¶ Statement by the President Marking the Opening of National Civil Defense Week. *September 9, 1956*

[Recorded on film and tape]

I AM VERY HAPPY to speak on this program opening National Civil Defense Week. I do so in recognition of the fact that a new element has come into being in the total strength of the nation. The new element is the active and personal participation of every American family in building a trained readiness to cope with disaster of any kind—so strong that it will help deter aggression and constitute in itself a positive force for peace. We call it Civil Defense.

By it we recognize the facts of today, but we do not abandon the hope that eventually man can devote all his energies to the advancement of human health, wealth and happiness, rather than destruction of his neighbor.

Our purpose now is to be strong enough to preserve peace, for weakness and unreadiness invite attack. That is why last year I recommended, and the Congress approved, an appropriation of funds to enable the Federal Civil Defense Administration, in cooperation with the several States, to work out detailed, flexible plans for the defense of our communities.

These plans will require the understanding, support and par-

ticipation of every American family. The observance of National Civil Defense Week will provide an opportunity for each of you to learn your part. You will find in the Civil Defense activities of your community a chance to acquire training that will make your family more self-reliant in the little emergencies of every day life. You will also find that a strong local Civil Defense is a good investment in community readiness to meet any natural disaster. Many towns and cities have already proved its worth in assuring a quick mobilization of doctors, nurses, engineers—all the men and women and equipment needed—to save lives when a sudden catastrophe struck.

Through working together in Civil Defense we become better citizens. We earn the right to live in peace, purchased in large part by our own vigilance and preparedness. We make it plain, as only a united people can, that aggression will not pay; and by discouraging aggression we will strengthen the hands of men of good will in all nations. We will contribute—each of us in his own personal way—toward the realization of that for which men have ever yearned, but never achieved: universal peace.

204 ¶ Remarks at the People-to-People Conference. *September 11, 1956*

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I appear before such an audience with mixed emotions. There are so many of my friends among you that on the personal side I feel like I am coming to sort of a family gathering with all of the enjoyments we normally accord on such occasions.

When I look at the cross-section of American brains and ability here—some of you experienced widely in the fields in which I expect to talk—I must say I am very diffident if not embarrassed.

But I am emboldened to talk to you because the purpose of this meeting is the most worthwhile purpose there is in the world

today: to help build the road to peace, to help build the road to an enduring peace.

A particular part of the work that we expect to do is based upon the assumption that no people, as such, want war—that all people want peace.

We know this to be a true assumption, but we know also that in certain portions of the world it is not understood as such. Some people are taught—and they are captive audiences—that others, including ourselves, want war: that we are warlike, that we are materialistic, that we are, in fact, hoping for cataclysms of that kind so that a few may profit, they say, out of the misery of the world.

For my part, and I have been around a long time and therefore more or less acquainted with all of the wars the United States has fought, to the glory of American businessmen I have never heard one single one—ever—refer to war in any terms except those of regret and hope that war will never occur again.

If we are going to take advantage of the assumption that all people want peace, then the problem is for people to get together and to leap governments—if necessary to evade governments—to work out not one method but thousands of methods by which people can gradually learn a little bit more of each other.

The problems are: How do we dispel ignorance? How do we present our own case? How do we strengthen friendships? How do we learn of others? These are the problems.

The communist way, of course, is to subject everything to the control of the state and to start out with a very great propaganda program all laid out in its details—and everybody conforms. They do this in every walk of life, in everything they do; and for a while it seems to score spectacular successes.

Of course, its great weakness is that in times of stress, whenever the love of freedom, for example, grows greater in a population than the fear of the gun at their backs, then the dictatorships fall. Indeed, in war, when the fear of the machine gun in front grows

greater than that of the machine gun behind, the dictatorships' armies begin to disintegrate.

Our way is a different one. We marshal the forces of initiative, independent action, and independent thinking of 168 million people. Sometimes it appears slow and awkward—weak. But the fact is that since all crises are met and action taken according to the will of the great majority, the tougher the going gets, the tighter is bound the whole: the more effective becomes the whole.

Today, we have this problem that I have stated: that of creating understanding between peoples. Here are people that we hope will lead us. Governments can do no more than point the way and cooperate and assist in mechanical details. They can publish certain official documents.

But I am talking about the exchange of professors and students and executives, the providing of technical assistance, and of the ordinary traveler abroad. I am talking about doctors helping in the conquering of disease, of our free labor unions showing other peoples how they work, what they earn, how they achieve their pay and the real take-home pay that they get.

In short, what we must do is to widen every possible chink in the Iron Curtain and bring the family of Russia, or of any other country behind that Iron Curtain, that is laboring to better the lot of their children—as humans do the world over—closer into our circle, to show how we do it, and then to sit down between us to say, "Now, how do we improve the lot of both of us?"

In this way, I believe, is the truest path to peace. All of the other things that we do are mere palliatives or they are holding the line while constructive forces of this kind take effect.

Every bomb we can manufacture, every plane, every ship, every gun, in the long run has no purpose other than negative: to give us time to prevent the other fellow from starting a war, since we know we won't.

The billions we pour into that ought to be supported by a great American effort, a positive constructive effort that leads directly toward what we all want: a true and lasting peace.

So, in calling upon a group like this, I wanted to come before you, in spite of the diffidence of which I spoke, to tell you that in the opinion of this Administration there is no more important work than that in which we are asking you to participate. There is no problem before the American people—indeed, before the world—that so colors everything we do, so colors our thinking, our actions as does the problem of preserving the peace and providing for our own security.

Whether it be the Suez problem of today or another one of tomorrow, there is nothing else that so affects our daily lives. It dictates, almost, the level of our taxes. It colors every problem with which we deal at home.

So, as you start this work, as you have before you the government officials who will be the ones cooperating with you, you will understand that this is something that lies very close to the hearts of the Administration and to every man, woman and child in America—and indeed, we believe, the world—except for those few who want unjustly and improperly to rule others.

Thank you very much for your attention.

NOTE: On May 31, 1956, the White House announced that the President had asked a group of Americans representing many fields of activity to meet with him to explore the possibilities of a program for better people-to-people contacts throughout the world. In his letter of invitation, sent to 34 representative leaders and quoted in part in the release, the President said "there will never be enough diplomats and information officers . . . to get the job done without help from the rest of us. Indeed, if our American ideology is eventually to win out in the great

struggle being waged between the two opposing ways of life, it must have the active support of thousands of independent private groups . . . and of millions of individual Americans acting through person-to-person communication in foreign lands."

On September 7 a further announcement listed the names of the chairmen of the 40 committees who were scheduled to meet with the President and other Government officials on September 11.

The President spoke at the District Red Cross Building at 10:00 a. m.

205 ¶ The President's News Conference of
September 11, 1956.

THE PRESIDENT. Please sit down. I have no special announcements, ladies and gentlemen.

Q. Merriman Smith, United Press: Mr. President, yesterday you conferred with some congressional candidates. They quoted you as being worried that the Democrats might do a better job than the Republicans in getting out the vote.

Then yesterday there was the Maine election. How, sir, do you evaluate the Maine election? Do you regard that as an example or the result of Republican complacency?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I don't know enough about the exact situation in Maine, but I understand there were about 300,000 voting out of 500,000 qualified voters.

Now, I doubt that I said I was worried because it is a word that I don't allow myself to use and, as a matter of fact, I try to avoid falling in that state.

But I did say this: that there had been a poll which I had seen in your Sunday papers which said there was a greater percentage of Republicans apparently not registering than there were Democrats. I deplored that situation—I believe I used the expression “I think everybody ought to vote,” and, frankly, I think it enough that if a fellow felt he had to vote against me I still would rather he voted than not vote at all. I still believe that the neglect of the freedom of voting is the first step toward losing your freedom. I think in the long run we must do it.

Q. William McGaffin, Chicago Daily News: Mr. President, I would like to ask you, sir, if you think it is going to be a close election, and if you think the Democrats have a chance to win it?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I say this: again, you people have been following the political contests throughout your careers. Your opinions ought to be worth more than mine on this matter.

I would say that I regard any contest as close until after it is won. I will put it that way.

Q. Robert J. Donovan, New York Herald Tribune: Sir, how do you characterize the campaign as thus far conducted by Governor Stevenson and Senator Kefauver?

THE PRESIDENT. I believe I would rather not comment on that.

Q. Mrs. May Craig, Portland (Maine) Press Herald: Mr. President, do you regard the Maine election yesterday as demonstrating a Democratic trend beginning with the Democratic Congress in '54 and the election of Democratic governors since?

THE PRESIDENT. No, I don't. I regard it as this: Maine had a very popular governor, they decided they wanted him again, and his majority was such that he helped every other person on the ticket. That is the way I regard it.

Q. Pat Munroe, Albuquerque Journal: Mr. President, with an election in the offing, voters are being asked to approve the records of individual members of Congress. Part of this record concerns the amount of public funds each has used on travel in foreign countries. Members of Congress do not seem inclined to reveal these figures, and reporters have been refused access to records in both the State and Defense Departments dealing with the subject. Would you help us get this information, sir?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I don't know whether I can help you at the moment.

This is the situation: I personally believe you ought to have it. This money is made available on the request of the chairmen of the several committees, and this is the plan adopted, as I understand it, and approved by the Appropriations Committee.

The money is made available on the request of that chairman and the reports are made to him; and I believe there is an agreement among them that whatever publicity is given will be given by the chairmen of those committees. So I would want you, first, to appeal to the chairmen of the committees because, as I understand it, that is the arrangement that now stands.

As far as I am concerned, any information of that kind belongs to the public.

Q. Mr. Munroe: But, of course, sir, I believe the funds are given to you under the MSA appropriation.

THE PRESIDENT. Not necessarily under MSA. There are counterpart funds, and there are funds that are appropriated, I think, both to the Defense Department and the State Department. But anyway, they are appropriated to take care of this.

Q. Mr. Munroe: And, of course, the State and Defense Departments do have to spend money on this travel?

THE PRESIDENT. Yes, sir; that is the way I understand it.

Q. Edward T. Folliard, *Washington Post and Times Herald*: Mr. President, there have been stories written lately—in fact, I have written one or two myself—to the effect that you are going to do more in this campaign than you had originally planned to do, make more speeches, do more traveling. As the old-time newspaperman said, “Is there a word of truth in those stories?”
[*Laughter*]

THE PRESIDENT. I think that I am going to make no more speeches than I had planned.

I said I thought I would probably make five or six speeches that could be classed as addresses. Now, it is possible, I think I have already said to you, that one, two, or three of those may be made outside of Washington. Just where they will be made, I don’t know. But I have already announced to you that I would make one in Newton—that is a visit, that is really not an address. I am going out there for a visit, and I am not making a major address that day.

I will make a major address in the Farm Belt a little later, but I don’t know exactly what date, maybe 4 or 5 days. There are no plans as of now for my going beyond that, although you can imagine there are many, many suggestions and invitations that are under consideration.

Q. John L. Steele, *Time Magazine*: Mr. President, negotiations over Suez seem to have reached a deadlock. I wonder if

you could tell us whether this country is prepared to suggest a new approach, and if so, what that may be?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, as you know, from the beginning our country has been dedicated to a peaceful solution of the Suez controversy.

Largely through the efforts of Secretary Dulles the 18-nation proposal was compiled and taken to President Nasser, who rejected it flatly, not only to Secretary Dulles' great disappointment, but certainly to mine and, I believe, to all of the whole world that is interested in this thing, because that plan did represent the ideas of the 18 nations the way the sovereignty of Egypt could be protected and observed, and still the rights guaranteed under the Constantinople convention of 1888 be exercised by the individuals.

Incidentally, in that presentation the Committee of Five did an extraordinary job. We owe them a debt, and particularly, Prime Minister Menzies. He was a model of tact and patience, diplomacy. So now we have come to the point where apparently Mr. Nasser is making a proposal. But, so far as I know to this moment, his proposal said nothing but "Let's have a conference."

There is no substantive point on which to base a conference. There are no details of time or place or anything else that I know of.

Nevertheless, any suggestions he makes will be earnestly studied in this government, and in the meantime we remain in the closest kind of diplomatic consultation with a number of governments on what should be the next move to make.

Q. Ruth S. Montgomery, International News Service: Mr. President, if Britain and France should eventually resort to force, would this country back them in that?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, Miss Montgomery, I don't know exactly what you mean by "backing them."

As you know, this country will not go to war ever while I am occupying my present post unless the Congress is called into session, and Congress declares such a war; the only exception

to that would be in the case of unexpected and unwarranted attack on this Nation, where self-defense itself would dictate some quick response while you call Congress into action.

So, as far as going into any kind of military action under present conditions, of course, we are not.

Now, if, after all peaceful means are exhausted, there is some kind of aggression on the part of Egypt against a peaceful use of the canal, you might say that we would recognize that Britain and France had no other recourse than to continue to use it even if they had to be more forceful than merely sailing through it.

There are so many things that can occur that I believe it is best to say we are consulting with other nations on every possible line of action that could occur.

Q. John Scali, Associated Press: Mr. President, on August 8, in discussing the Suez dispute you told us that you did not think at that time that it was desirable to bring the matter before the United Nations. Among the disadvantages, you mentioned the slowness. Now, in view of the fact that the Cairo discussions have ended without agreement, what would you think of the possibility of referring this matter to the U. N. at the present time?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I would put it this way: I am certain that it will be referred to the U. N. before anything which you could call more positive—physical, positive steps are taken. I don't know whether this is the exact time.

The only thing I can do is repeat my statement: we are consulting with all our associates throughout the world on this to see what is the very best next thing.

Q. Raymond P. Brandt, St. Louis Post-Dispatch: Mr. President, Vice President Nixon told us yesterday that you and he had agreed that in his campaign he would point to the constructive record of your administration, and point out what he called distortions by the Democrats of that record. Could you give us some idea of the distortions of the record by the Democrats?

THE PRESIDENT. No. I believe I am going to leave that to others, although I think you can read in the newspapers of some of the things that have been said about me and this administration.

For myself, I repeat: I don't care what they say about me. I still believe America believes I am honest; that I am not a rascal, that I am not a racketeer or anything like it.

Now, I think, though, others can better say what they think about the constructive things that have been accomplished under this administration.

Q. Edward P. Morgan, American Broadcasting Company: Mr. President, I believe you said last week you had not been completely briefed on some of the aspects of State-Federal responsibility in the segregation disputes.

One of the most recent incidents occurred yesterday and, according to the dispatches, Rangers in the town of Texarkana did not allow two Negro students into the school in which they had registered. Would you consider that an incident in which the Federal Government had a responsibility, and, if not, can you give us an idea of what the formula is that would have to be followed for the Government to intervene?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, briefly—and this may be an oversimplification—a Federal district court issues an order, let's say, about the entry of Negro students into a certain school. Due to violence of the kind you describe, they cannot enter. Now, that court must decide whether it believes someone is in contempt of that court. And at that point I think it is customary for the court to call in the Justice Department to assist in bringing the evidence and thrashing the case out. And then, that having been done, if anyone is in contempt, I assume that it is the job of the U. S. marshal to serve the warrants and to take the men, the offenders, to jail or to pay their fines or whatever happens.

No one can deplore violence in this thing more than I do. I think that violence sets us back, well—years. I think the young-

sters that are indulging in violence are not being counseled properly at home.

The States, I would hope, would exercise, first of all, their responsibility and authority in carrying out police functions to preserve law and order and to make certain that no one is injured; and, secondly, they ought, as a concurrent responsibility, to see and to help to see that the orders of a district court are carried out. I think when that does not happen there is a failure somewhere, and it contrasts very badly with what happened in Louisville.

I read about this man Carmichael, the Superintendent of Schools there, who, I understand, campaigned for 2 years in an educational program before they integrated the schools this fall. He had, so far at least, not the slightest trouble.

I think Mr. Carmichael must be a very wise man. I hope to meet him; and I hope to get some advice from him as to exactly how he did it, because he pursued the policy that I believe will finally bring success in this.

Q. Peter Lisagor, *Chicago Daily News*: Mr. President, one of the speakers at the Republican Convention in San Francisco, speaking of your trip to Korea in 1952, had this to say: "Even before his inauguration he took personal action in Korea. He put in motion the steps that were necessary, some of which will be revealed only by history."

You were President-elect at that time, sir, and I wonder if you can tell us whether you took any personal action at the time, and whether enough time has elapsed for you to tell us what the steps were?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, there is some misunderstanding, and I didn't hear the speech. I don't know who the individual was; I don't care. I will comment in this fashion: I went out to inform myself, and before I went I said that was the reason I was going. I did not consider for one moment I was going out there with an open sesame formula that was going to settle all the troubles of Korea in 5 seconds.

Now, everybody that I met who was in a position of authority at that moment, was an old friend of mine. We had lived together for years. It was only natural that I should talk to these people about the possibilities of winning a war under the conditions then laid down, you might say the rules of the game as played there.

You remember, for example, it was more or less accepted that if there was any attack across the Yalu that that would mean international war on a large scale. That having become accepted by the United Nations and everybody else, you practically had foreclosed the opportunity to win a war, you see.

So we talked over all these things; and it is only natural that I expressed to them what I would expect to do when I had to take over the reins of responsibility.

Q. Sarah McClendon, *El Paso Times*: Mr. President, do you anticipate that we can bring an end to the draft in the foreseeable future?

THE PRESIDENT. You know, before I answer your question, will you answer me one?

Q. Mrs. McClendon: Yes, sir.

THE PRESIDENT. Do you get fired every week and join another paper the next week? [*Laughter*]

Q. Mrs. McClendon: No, sir; I try to give representation to all the papers I work for. [*Laughter*]

THE PRESIDENT. I think that is very fair. [*Laughter*]

No, I don't see any chance of ending the draft. When you use the word "foreseeable," of course, that is subject to a number of interpretations. But in the immediate future, no, I see no chance of ending the draft and carrying out the responsibilities for the security of this country that must be carried out.

Q. Richard L. Wilson, *Cowles Publications*: Mr. President, is this Government considering cooperating with any other governments in the application of economic sanctions to Egypt?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, every time that any difficulty like this

occurs, there are things in motion that are stopped or hurried up. I suppose you could call them economic sanctions.

A program of economic sanctions has never been placed before me as of this moment, never.

Q. Earl H. Voss, Washington Star: Mr. President, if the non-Egyptian Suez pilots and engineers quit Saturday, as they have said they would, and canal traffic is slowed down or stopped, do you think Britain and France would be justified in using force to restore a management acceptable to the non-Egyptian employees?

THE PRESIDENT. I don't know about management. All that the 1888 treaty says is: These nations are guaranteed the free use of the canal. Now, if they are guaranteed the free use—and it then provides methods by which cooperation with Egypt may be achieved—I think that they are justified probably in taking steps and conferring with President Nasser looking toward the free use of the canal. But that doesn't mean that they are justified at that moment in using force. I think this: We established the United Nations to abolish aggression, and I am not going to be a party to aggression if it is humanly possible to avoid it or I can detect it before it occurs.

Q. Charles W. Bailey, Minneapolis Star and Tribune: Recent surveys in some midwestern farm areas have indicated that your margin over Mr. Stevenson may be considerably smaller in that section of the country than it was in 1952. Do you see any particular reason for such a situation arising, and do you expect any special problems in the Farm Belt in campaigning?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I don't know about special problems. Everybody knows that the farm problem has been a very confused one, and not everybody agrees with everybody else.

I have said time and again there are two things here we must do: we must preserve our most precious asset, our soil and water resources, for future generations; and, at the same time, we must work out a program under which the agricultural community can share properly in our unprecedented prosperity—although I

understand this prosperity is not unprecedented, some people have told me.

Now, if we are going to do that, it is going to take some patience and some working out, and people who get impatient and believe in get-rich-quick cures may disagree. But that is as far as I am going.

My program along this line has been restated time and again. I follow principle, and if that is what they want, that is what I will give. Otherwise, of course, the American electorate has its own way of settling the issue.

Q. Louis R. Lautier, National Negro Press: Mr. President, I have been requested to ask this question: If, as you say, changing of traditions and the hearts of men will unfortunately take a long time, is not the solution of the present disorders in many parts of the South over segregation this, namely, that citizens must be restrained from expressing their prejudices in public actions when such public acts are in violation of the law?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, as I say again, the local court must determine whether there is someone in contempt of that court. And I know of no way from this distance that those things can be determined. But when the courts do call properly upon the Attorney General, I am sure he will assist in every possible way.

Q. Robert E. Clark, International News Service: Mr. President, you told us 2 years ago when you filled the last vacancy on the Supreme Court that, generally, you thought it was a good idea to pick Associate Justices from the ranks of lower court judges. Do you plan to follow that policy in picking a successor to Justice Minton?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, as of this moment, Mr. Clark, I have no name in mind. But if there is a man on the lower court who, by reason of age, experience, his standing in the community and his standing among lawyers, he will certainly be appointed.

I believe that is best to do it in that way. I believe also that we must never appoint a man who doesn't have the recognition of the American Bar Association, of all of his fellows. He must

be a man of unimpeachable character and accomplishment.
[*Confers with Mr. Hagerty*]

Well, yes, anybody on the Federal bench that applies to; it is the same formula.

Q. Chalmers M. Roberts, Washington Post and Times Herald: Mr. President, on the Suez issue, Prime Minister Eden and Premier Mollet, in a statement today, said their governments were in full agreement, to use their phrase, on further measures to be taken in this case. Do your words about our cooperation with other governments imply that we are a party to any British-French agreements at this point?

THE PRESIDENT. No. They imply nothing that I haven't said; that we are in consultation to see what we believe would be a good step to take.

Q. Frank Hewlett, Honolulu Star-Bulletin: Mr. President, the Republican platform calls for statehood for Hawaii and Alaska in the strongest terms ever used. Would you care to elaborate on the Alaska plank which pledges immediate statehood for Alaska, and then adds the words, "recognizing the fact that adequate provision for defense requirements must be made"?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I think I have talked about that subject before this body time and again.

As far as Hawaii is concerned, there is no question. I not only approved of it in the '52 platform, but time and again I brought it before the Congress in terms of recommendations.

Now, Alaska is a very great area, there are very few people in it, and they are confined almost exclusively to the southeastern corner.

Could there be a way worked out where the areas necessary to defense requirements could be retained under Federal control in the great outlying regions and a State made out of that portion in which the population is concentrated, it would seem to me to be a good solution to the problem. But the great and vast area is completely dependent upon the United States for protection, and it is necessary to us in our defense arrangements.

Q. Charles E. Shutt, Telenews: Mr. President, you have told us, sir, in the upcoming election you plan to present the administration's record and let the people decide for themselves. Are you confident, sir, that the people will re-elect you on that presentation?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I don't think that is particularly important.

I say this record is good, and I believe in it with all my heart. I believe more in the program than I do in the record, because I have had some defeats, as all of you know.

I am continuing on the same way. If that is what the American people want, they will return this administration to power. If they don't they will do something else.

Q. Charles S. von Fremd, CBS News: Mr. President, I would like to return to Mr. Folliard's question about your campaign plans. You indicate, as you have said before, that you plan just a limited campaign this year, and just to stand on the record of the administration. However, I also believe you have told us before, sir, that you don't enter any fight thinking about being a possible loser.

THE PRESIDENT. Yes.

Q. Mr. von Fremd: And if you felt that a strong, energetic campaign would help the ticket to win, might you change your mind and step up your campaigning?

THE PRESIDENT. My dear sir, I believe the strongest, most energetic campaign I can put on is to lay the absolute truth before the American people.

Now, I expect to talk enough to do that, and I think there is nothing better I can do, because I am not trying to kid anybody.

There are the facts. There is what we tried to do. We continue in that path. If that is what they want, I think that is the strongest thing we could say.

Q. Thomas N. Schroth, Congressional Quarterly: Mr. President, if the situation in Suez worsens, at what point would you consider calling a special session of the Congress?

THE PRESIDENT. I wouldn't even attempt to answer that question.

Q. Kay Ray, *Houston Chronicle*: Mr. President, have you seen the school desegregation order issued by the Federal judge in Texas that you mentioned last week, and if so, do you have any comment?

THE PRESIDENT. Yes, I saw it. The Attorney General got it, showed it to me, and then made the comment on the end of it that I made a little while ago in response to what was the Federal Government's responsibility, which was, if the court decided that someone was in contempt, then they would call in the Federal Government to assist in the presentation of the case.

Q. Marvin L. Arrowsmith, *Associated Press*: Mr. President, I don't know whether this goes against your embargo about not replying to criticism or not, but I thought you might like to have an opportunity on this one: your Democratic opponent said the other day that your administration has been marked from the start by what he called a contagion of Republican misconduct and corruption. Would you care to comment on that one?

THE PRESIDENT. I think I've got enough friends in the United States, even among this group right here, to refute any such allegation.

Q. Frank van der Linden, *Richmond Times Dispatch*: Mr. President, Chief Judge John Parker of the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals who, as you know, was once appointed to the Supreme Court but rejected, is being mentioned once again for the new vacancy on the Supreme Court. I wondered if there was any possibility of Judge Parker or any other southerner being named to the Supreme Court this time?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, there are two southerners on it now, and I don't know who will be named. But I have laid down the criteria that I use. One of them is a reasonable age, so far as I can follow it. And so as much as I admire Judge Parker, I believe he is very close to retirement age this minute.

Q. Jack Norman, Fairchild Publications: Mr. President, Governor Stevenson said up in New England the other day that he suggested our prosperity is getting too dependent on overexpansion of consumer credit, and you said a few things about consumer credit in the past. I wonder how you feel about it now and, if possibly, you have some plans to suggest something to Congress?

THE PRESIDENT. Consumer credit has gone up some, it is true. But consumer credit in relation to the total gross national product and to the cash money that is being spent is not out of line.

I will tell you, without commenting on anybody's statement, it is rather amusing to see how many people are finding reasons to account for a prosperity which, as I mentioned a while ago, they say is not a prosperity at all. You just think you are well off, you don't know. [*Laughter*]

Q. Martin S. Hayden, Detroit News: Mr. President, in your simplified explanation of the way in which the Federal Government would get into this school matter, you ended with the U. S. marshal getting an order to enforce the Court's order. Do I understand, sir, that at that point it becomes the responsibility of the Federal Government to see that he has the power to do that?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, the Federal judge, of course, is a Federal officer in the judiciary branch.

I assume that if that marshal is not able to carry it out by himself, he has got the right to deputize any number of deputy marshals to help him carry it out. I really don't know what the next step is.

I do know this: in a place of general disorder, the Federal Government is not allowed to go into any State unless called upon by the governor, who must show that the governor is unable with the means at his disposal to preserve order. I believe it is called a posse comitatus act—I am now going back to my staff school of 1925—of 1882; and that is the thing that keeps the Federal Government from just going around where it pleases to carry out police duties.

However, when the Federal court gets into the thing, you have got a legal thing that I have gone into as far as I know the answer.

Merriman Smith, United Press: Thank you, Mr. President.

NOTE: President Eisenhower's ninety-fifth news conference was held in the Executive Office Building from 2:59 to 3:31 o'clock on Tuesday afternoon, September 11, 1956. In attendance: 249.

206 ¶ Remarks at the Republican Campaign Picnic at the President's Gettysburg Farm.

September 12, 1956

Mr. Chairman, my fellow platform-sitters, my fellow Americans and all the people that you represent in your official and personal capacities:

Unfortunately, the Chairman did not allot me time. I have no idea how long I am supposed to talk, but I have so many things on my mind. If I get to wandering around too freely, I hope that some of my friends here in front will have the good judgment to act a little impatient—possibly I shall notice it.

I want, first of all, to answer a question I have been asked every day for just about a year:

Ladies and gentlemen, I feel fine.

And now, in acknowledging the very gracious and complimentary things that have been said about me today, and more particularly the latest remarks by the Vice President, I want to say this: there is no man in the history of America who has had such a careful preparation as has Vice President Nixon for carrying out the duties of the Presidency, if that duty should ever fall upon him.

For four solid years there hasn't been a principal administrative meeting among the heads of government that he has not attended as an active participant. He has gone, on behalf of the United States, to many foreign countries on many trips. And in every

country that he has visited the reports have been that the United States has gained many additional friends.

I have called upon him to serve on numerous committees where people have banded together looking toward the solution of some problem important to our country, one of the most important of which was that looking toward the elimination of discrimination in governmental contracts, and the success attained is a tribute to his dedication and to his wisdom.

Now the first thing that I want to say to you personally is that I hope each of you has enjoyed the day as much as Mrs. Eisenhower and I have enjoyed having you out here. It has been a great privilege for us, and I have particularly enjoyed listening to the people who told us something of the mechanics of winning elections, and working in the precincts, and so on.

I subscribe to every bit of it.

I would like to tell here just a little incident that occurred not long ago in the White House one evening. There was a caller from nearby Maryland, and she said, "Twice Democratic workers have called at my door and wanted to talk government and politics. No Republican has yet called."

I would venture one word of advice on top of all that you have so far heard: when you go to that door and ring that bell, go with a smile on your face. Pessimism has never yet won a battle.

Now I should like to talk a little bit more about the fundamental reasons that we are here today. Now the obvious one is: we want to elect the Republican Party to the position of leadership in our municipalities, our counties, our States and our national government.

But I want to point out that an election in itself is not the victory. The election rather is a mandate that is placed upon a party and upon its candidates by the people of the United States. An election is a beginning. It's more like the battle orders that a commander gives to a unit as he sends it into battle: to do something constructive for the great people that we call the American nation.

Now of course, this election concerns the important business, almost the life and death business, of 168 million people. It is a fantastically complex organization—an economy producing at the extraordinary rate of four hundred billions a year, with every kind of craft and science and profession represented among our people, and each having its own special relations with government.

So, knowing and hearing today the practical means by which we win elections, let us never forget why we are winning: what do we want to accomplish?

We want to accomplish giving to the United States of America, in all levels of government, honest government, government of good judgment, government of tolerance, of conciliation, that has very definite views about the relationship of government to the individual and faithfully follows them.

So let us not forget: we are not winning an election merely because we happen to like one individual or two individuals or the individuals and their families. We are winning an election to give America a chance to go forward along a path that we believe to be best for her, and because it is best for her, it is best for the world.

We have four great objectives immediately in front of us. First, we want to arouse consciousness of the vast stakes that hang upon this election. We want Americans to understand how much it means to them to keep on going down the straight road of prosperity and peace.

We want, then, to generate a conviction. We want to generate the conviction that the Republican Party, by reason of its Platform, its record of the past four years and beyond, the people that it offers you as candidates all the way from Councilman all the way up, represents the best hope of America to follow that great and broad forward way.

We want to ignite a zeal so that we can make converts, make converts among every class of people, not asking a person whether he is a Republican, whether he is an independent, or whether he

is a Democrat. We say to them: "Do you believe this—do you believe this? These facts being so, you must vote Republican."

So our idea is to get all of these converts understanding what we do about our country, about the capacity of the Republican Party to lead based upon its record—and get them to vote that way.

And of course we want to fortify their determination to prepare themselves for voting. If we do—and by this I mean, of course, registration—if we do all of these things I point out, we transform a campaign into a crusade, we change a political platform into a cause, a cause that makes people jump up and want to work.

It is useless for the chairman, or any of us on this platform, to say to you: "Just go work." If the leaders of the party do not provide for the workers an understanding that puts a light in the eye and some joy in the heart—there's no sense of going out and working.

As a matter of fact, unless we had a cause that would do those things, I declare to you, never could I have accepted the nomination. And I know that none of you would be here today. You have made the long trek, some of you from California, to come here and meet with people of your kind and with the rest of us, to talk over these problems. It is because you do have something of that in your heart and in your eye, you can give it to every worker.

Now of course in this job, there is nothing chronological—there is nothing really very systematic about it, for the reason you can't talk about human morale in terms of push buttons and call bells. You have got to reach down into the hearts of people. That is what we are talking about. It has got to be a real cause for which they are ready to work.

What we are really talking about is, a day-to-day way of life on the part of leaders. And who are leaders? Anybody that can influence any other single person in this world—that's a leader.

Even down in the squad, in the Army, you not only have the squad leader, but you have the assistant squad leader and the

technician. Each has his little job. Why do you pick him? First, because he can get others to work with him. The essence of leadership is to get others to do something because they think you want it done and because they know it is worth while doing—that is what we are talking about.

By this day-to-day way of life, I mean using every opportunity to tell the truth, to expose falsehood, to stimulate thinking, to overcome prejudice, dealing with fellow citizens as equals in their rights and responsibilities, not playing a demagogue or the boss, or the “I know better than you” big-brother role.

We want to emphasize the principles that distinguish the Republican Party from our opponents. Now these principles concern, first, the purpose of government, and next the nature of government.

Here the Republican Party is fortunate that in its first great leader they received an axiom that has never been improved upon since his time, when Abraham Lincoln said, “The role of government is to do for people what they cannot do at all for themselves, or so well do in their individual capacities.” “And,” he said, “in all those things where people can do these things for themselves, government ought not to interfere.”

And in a subsequent talk on this very battleground, he said the nature of government is of, by and for the people.

There is no better way to describe the nature of government that the Republican Party adheres to, and its purpose.

Great books have been written in extension of President Lincoln’s statements. More will probably be written, but the nub of them, I think, is something like this: The Republican Party demands that our system be so conducted as to:

Assure the individual his right to reach the heights that his ambitions and his talents permit, without infringement on his fellow citizens’ equal right.

Next, to protect the individual against falling into the depths of poverty and misery through no fault of his own. Next, to foster the individual’s will to join with his neighbors in making their

community and State worthy and respectable members of the Republic. Next, to assist them in the achievement of that objective when on their own resources alone they cannot do the job.

The Republican Party stands for thrift and integrity in government and against centralization of power in big government. But it believes that government must neither pinch pennies where the security of the nation is concerned nor weakly compromise principle under pressures however massive or powerful they may be.

The Republican Party insists that the conduct of American world leadership be marked by an open diplomacy that permits no secret treaties, no covenants that violate decency or justice or the rights of even the weakest nation. For peace can be achieved and preserved only by international agreements based on moral principles that can stand the scrutiny of all mankind.

Finally, to the Republican Party from its very beginning, one man is equal in his dignity and in his rights to all other men.

Now, our fundamental purpose—immediate purpose—is to persuade everybody to vote Republican.

And there has been some talk about a phrase that I used at San Francisco, and it must have been a very fortunate one because it has been quoted, “discerning Democrats.”

One accosted me here today. He came up and said “I am one of those discerning Democrats, and I assume that from this platform I would hear a statement from one of them.” But that gentleman—I have unfortunately forgotten his name—I want to thank him at least for giving me an individual report on what he was doing.

Now again, I come back to registration. This campaign will be a tragic exercise in futility if we should succeed in generating the zeal, the beliefs, the convictions, among all America that we want to generate, and then find on election day that half the people that we have converted couldn’t vote.

Let us insist now, therefore, that everybody register—telling them very frankly: “We want you to register. If you find it necessary to vote against us, all right. We would rather have you

do that than not vote at all—because we want the decision of America, not the decision of a minority.”

I have talked to great TV executives, and they say they are going to help. They are putting on little spot programs. I have talked to radio people—movie people. All of them say they are going to help. I don’t believe there’s any election that will be as effective as what we ourselves can do: telephoning our friends, calling on those we don’t know, introducing ourselves, as I say, with a grin, and let’s get along with the business of getting them down there and getting them ready to vote.

Now I am going to read you the shortest editorial I have ever read on this business of registration. It reads:

“If you live behind the iron curtain, you do not have to register—you vote as you’re told, when you’re told. If you are an American citizen, you do not have to register. Period.

“In either case, somebody else runs your country.”

Now let me mention one other thing. I would not admit that there is any community, any county, any State, any section of this country, to be written off as hopeless. We had the report from the enthusiastic Southerner, who said we are growing in the South. Well, if you grow far enough you are going to pass somebody that is not growing.

We have a great Party. We have got individuals in this Party right now working in the cities all the way from the Puget Sound down to Miami—from Los Angeles to Maine. That’s a bad word, isn’t it! (*Much laughter*)

You know, since I was allotted no definite portion of time, I am going to take some of this time to tell just a little bit of a story.

When we went into the African campaign, as all of you know, all our troops were green, and the normal American boy seemed to think that some rules applied in war that were something, possibly, like football or baseball, or rules that applied to any other contest. They thought there was time to fight and time to sleep, and so on. They had, in other words, taken their training lightly.

We had the battle of Kasserine Pass that came about because of surprise and greenness of the commanders and troops, and we took a real beating before we recovered ourselves and were able to drive the enemy back from whence he came.

But there was no lesson in the whole campaign—in all of the campaigns in which I was concerned—so valuable as that. Never again did you find American troops casually sitting on the side of a hill and assuming that the Germans wouldn't attack at two a. m. From that time on they were real soldiers.

I think maybe Maine has a lesson in it.

So our tactics, then, are to reach every last woman and man—and child, indeed, because a child's enthusiasm can be important—in your block, in your apartment house—reach every one of them and convince them of the solidity of your views, the dedication that you have to your cause. We will reach all of these people, we will convince them, because we are leaders.

I want to say one more word about leadership. I told you I was going to wander all over the countryside. The tactical schools used to tell us that a commander visited his troops in order to inspire them; they fight better. From the beginning of my soldier experience, I learned this: I loved those visits, but it was I that gained the inspiration. There is no American that can't take inspiration from young 20-year-olds, if he will watch them in action. They bring to a cause in which they believe an energy, a zeal, a belief, a conviction, that is inspiring to watch, and it sends each of us back doing our work better.

Now, in conclusion, you know the problems. You must receive constant information from your headquarters. That information is rather like the ammunition which you use in a campaign. Use it usefully. It's to prove that the Republican Party is dedicated to the welfare of all the people of America, and to an honorable and just peace abroad. And remember, let us make sure that everybody has a right to exercise the ballot, because I would say that a voter without a ballot is like a soldier without a bullet. Let's

make sure that every man on election day is armed and ready to do his part with his own ballot.

NOTE: The President spoke at 5:30 p. m. His opening words "Mr. Chairman" referred to Leonard W. Hall, Chairman of the Republican National Committee.

207 ¶ Exchange of Messages Between the President and the Secretary General of the Christian Democratic Party of Italy.
September 14, 1956

[Released September 14, 1956. Dated September 12, 1956]

His Excellency

Amintore Fanfani

Secretary General of the Christian Democratic Party

Thank you for your gracious and thoughtful message. I am sure that the many Americans who met you during your tour of this country feel, as I do, that visits like yours by the leaders of Italian democracy further strengthen the already close friendship between our two peoples. It was a particular pleasure for me to meet you.

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

NOTE: During his visit to the United States, Mr. Fanfani was received at the White House on August 10. The text of his message follows:

*His Excellency General Eisenhower
President of the United States*

From Rome I wish to send you my grateful thoughts for the friendly and cordial reception and I wish to con-

firm my admiration for the generosity of the American people who stand for the progress and peace of humanity and are tied to Italy by sincere friendship. With respectful regards, allow me to express warmest wishes for you and your work.

AMINTORE FANFANI

The messages were released at Gettysburg, Pa.

208 ¶ Letter to President O’Kelly of Ireland on the Occasion of the Dedication of the Commodore Barry Statue at Wexford. *September 16, 1956*

[Released September 16, 1956. Dated September 14, 1956]

Dear Mr. President:

May I, through you, express to the people of Eire the sincere respect and good wishes of the people of the United States upon this significant occasion.

Nearly two centuries ago a young Irish lad went to sea from the land of his birth and sailed westward. In a few years he had become master of a merchant ship serving the American colonies. Then came a war of independence and he found his destiny in the naval forces of a new nation.

The name of John Barry and the honor he brought his adopted country live on in grateful memory. Just two days over a week ago, a new destroyer of the latest and most powerful class was placed in commission bearing his name. Two other vessels bearing the name of “Barry” preceded her in the United States Navy list.

Now John Barry symbolically has returned to his native land, brought there by a vessel of that Navy which he served so well. While his mortal remains lie in St. Mary’s Churchyard, Philadelphia, this bronze statue, a gift of his grateful countrymen to the people of the land from which he sprung, will, we all hope, remain forever symbolic not only of the intermingling of our heritage but also of our common aspirations for liberty and justice for all of mankind.

Sincerely,

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

NOTE: This letter, released at Gettysburg, Pa., was read at the dedication ceremony by Comdr. Edward L. Beach, Naval Aide to the President.

209 ¶ Remarks at the Republican Send-off
Breakfast at the Washington National Airport.
September 18, 1956

Mr. Chairman, Mr. Vice President, distinguished guests and my fellow citizens:

I read in the paper I was going to make an address this morning, but I will have to correct my newspaper friends. I am not. I came out here to have a last meeting with this group that is starting out in this campaign, to give them a word of greeting and of thanks, and then to express a few thoughts on my mind that could scarcely be classed as an address.

First of all, I have a little criticism of the way your morning menu or schedule is checked up. I think this entire table is a truth squad. I see no reason for going to the public with anything except the truth—the truth about the situation as it was in 1952—what has been accomplished—the problems as they stand today, and what we propose to do about them in the future.

The record itself is sufficient, if it is made sufficiently clear to all Americans.

By no means do we need to claim perfection. We don't need to indulge in the exaggerations of partisan political talk.

The record is there. And it is good.

And where it has failed, it has failed not for want of trying; it has failed because of circumstances often beyond control. For example, we may be as peaceful as we want to be in this world. If someone else wants to be aggressive, we have to take measures that are not exactly the way we would like to spend our effort.

So, although the peace we have is not a secure peace in which we may have confidence, there are still many, many thousands of American mothers that are mighty thankful that their sons are not on the battlefield.

Though the distribution of the rewards from our economic system are not so perfectly accomplished yet as they will be one day

in the future, yet the progress that has been made in the last three and a half years in this regard is attested by the economic facts that can be secured from any reputable economic statistical firm.

The farmers have been taken out of a system which just repeated over and over again the mistakes of the past and made the situation worse, and they have been given the right to hope, to believe that their income at the present can be brought up, and that the future will be truly one in which they share equitably in our growing—ever-growing prosperity.

With all of the facts of our economy, with all of the facts of the world scene, you can go before the American public. And again I say: tell the truth, tell it forcefully. And that should be our campaign.

I think that of course on-the-spot misstatements and distortions should be corrected so that nobody has the excuse to make conclusions of his own based on misinformation. But I have found myself, in the various kinds of campaigns I have waged: if I have a cause and believe in it enough, I get so busy trying to put that over, whether it be here or in other kinds of contests, that I don't even know what the other people are saying. As long as we have a positive plan of our own and are carrying it forward, let them do the yelling.

Now, to you gentlemen who are going out and your wives who are going with you, the warmest good wishes of Mrs. Eisenhower and myself to you. I hope that the job—of course I know it will be onerous—will also bring to you the satisfaction of doing a job, first of all for your country—incidentally, only, for your party.

Good luck to all of you.

NOTE: The President spoke at the Washington National Airport at 8:22 a. m. His opening words "Mr. Chairman" referred to Leonard W. Hall, Chairman of the Republican National Committee.

210 ¶ Radio and Television Address Opening
the President's Campaign for Re-election.

September 19, 1956

[Delivered at a major network studio at 9:30 p. m.]

My fellow Americans:

This is the first of a series of talks that I hope to have with you between now and November 6th. In these talks I shall hope to give you some account of how my Republican associates and I have discharged the responsibilities you placed on us almost four years ago. I shall try to outline some of the problems facing this nation as we see them today, and point out the directions we propose to take in solving those problems.

Tonight I ask the privilege of coming quietly into your homes to talk with you on some serious national subjects—without the noise and extravagance usual during a political campaign.

I want to talk of one word—and of many things. The word is—Peace. And the many things are its many and momentous meanings.

The force and impact of this one word—Peace—reach all persons, all problems, in our land. Its meaning embraces past achievements, present problems, future hopes. It touches all things in our life and knowledge: from home and school, factory and farm, to the most distant points on earth—a frontier in Europe, an island in the Pacific, a canal in the Middle East. And this meaning ranges, too, from the highest kind of principle to the most personal kind of fact.

Let me begin with a very personal matter. It is a personal kind of peace that I possess—granted to me by the mercy of the Almighty.

It is this firm conviction: I am confident of my own physical strength to meet all the responsibilities of the Presidency, today

and in the years just ahead. If I were not so convinced, I would never have accepted renomination to this office.

I hope that this conviction—this peace of mind—may bring assurance to many others, as I stand ready to serve as your President for another four years, if this be your will.

Let me speak now of matters far greater than personal ones.

II.

Peace, like all virtues, begins at home. So examination of our problems and achievements should likewise begin at home.

Now peace—for any home in this land—means each family's freedom from need.

The workers of America today fill almost 67 million jobs—the largest number in our history. They receive higher wages and have better living standards than ever before known. And they know that, in the whole area of human welfare, every major Federal program affecting social security, health and education has been improved or expanded to the highest point in our history.

Now we should, I think, not waste time in self-congratulation as we face these facts. We know that America cannot claim perfection so long as any family in this land unjustly suffers need. We know that, at the same time, we already enjoy progress without precedent. And our anxiety to achieve still more is equalled only by our thanksgiving to God for the wisdom, the skills, the industry and the resources that make us, today, the most fortunate people on earth.

Peace—next—has a special meaning for our nation's industry, an industry upon which depend not only our own daily lives but indeed the strength of free men everywhere.

We have made real progress, these last three years, toward industrial peace. We have seen the loss of time—with its loss of wages—caused by industrial conflict fall to less than half the rate of immediately preceding years.

This Administration has trusted and respected the free processes of collective bargaining.

The reward, for our country, has been two-fold. Industry has smashed all records of production and expansion. And organized labor has grown—in numbers, in resources, and in public respect—to a strength never known before.

Peace, for the farmer in our agricultural community, has, too, a special meaning, as he has special problems.

Because I shall speak of these special farm problems in days ahead, I now want to state only the plain principles that must guide us. We must meet these problems with government policies that apply to the conditions of peace—not with policies of the past that applied only to the demands of wartime. And we must develop and live by policies that are truly constructive—we must never, in a spirit of partisan warfare, treat the farmer as a kind of political prize to be fought for and captured.

Peace in our society involves more than economic groups: it involves understanding and tolerance among all creeds and races.

We have applied, these last three years, a clear philosophy to the whole conduct of the government. We have rejected all concept of a nation divided into sections, groups or factions. We have insisted that, in the American design, each group in our nation may have special problems, but none has special rights. Each has peculiar needs, but none has peculiar privileges. And the supreme concern, equal for all, is the justice, the opportunity, and the unity shared by 168 million Americans.

We have shown this concern by working to secure, wherever the authority of the Federal Government extends, equality of rights and opportunity for all men regardless of race or color.

We have done this in this nation's capital.

We have done this in all the establishments of our armed forces.

And we have done this in the policy ruling all government contracts with private industry.

Now these facts deserve one comment.

I am proud that all the progressive actions of these years—taken in the name, not of any political party, but of the American

people—place no individual in debt to any political party. These actions are nothing more—nothing less—than the rendering of justice.

In all these ways, then, we have been building the strength of peace at home. And so, we have been able, on the whole, to act as a united people in our search for peace in its most critical form—the peace of the wide world itself.

III.

Now upon my inauguration in January, 1953, I made to you this pledge: “In our quest for an honorable peace, we shall neither compromise, nor tire, nor ever cease.”

In the spirit of this pledge, let me indicate a few facts—and compare, in some areas of our world, life today with life in 1952.

Korea.—In 1952 the loss of life, for ours and many nations, seemed endless. Today Korea means: peace with honor.

Iran.—This country had been tormented for years by Soviet threats and Communist subversion. The resources of that nation threatened, for a time, to be lost behind the Iron Curtain. We met that threat. Iran stays free.

West Germany.—Three years ago this great power was a territory of military occupation. Today it is sovereign—strong—and joined with the West.

Trieste.—Ever since World War II, riot and division in this city had poisoned relations between the two major powers: Italy and Yugoslavia. Today Trieste is at peace.

Austria.—Year after year, since World War II, military division and occupation had plagued the people of Austria. Today Austria is unoccupied—united—and free.

Guatemala.—This Central American republic was a chosen target for Communist aggression in our Hemisphere. This danger was met and repelled. And as never before all the American republics are united against international Communism.

These few examples circle the globe.

And they testify to our greater goal: to ease, for all men every-

where, the burden of arms and of fears which they have suffered so long. For we have been pledged to wage what I three and one-half years ago called “a new kind of war . . . a declared total war, not upon any human enemy, but upon the brute forces of poverty and need.”

We have been waging this kind of war—in the world, as in our own land.

We have done this with our offer of nuclear material for world use.

We have done it with our specific plans for world disarmament under essential safeguards.

We have done it with what has been called the “open skies” declaration, proposing mutual air inspection of American and Soviet defenses.

We have done it with what I might call an “open minds” spirit in our diplomacy—for in meetings like those in Geneva last year we have made known our passion for peace in ways understood by men everywhere.

And we have given the firmest proof of our final purpose with this declaration of policy: In the interest of world peace and well-being, this Government is ready to ask its people to join all nations in devoting a substantial percentage of the savings achieved by disarmament to a fund for world aid and reconstruction.

We stand ready, in short, to dedicate our strength to serving the needs, rather than the fears of the world.

We stand, too, in true and effective unity with our allies of all the free world.

This unity speaks through not only the world forum of the United Nations, but also our defense systems. It speaks through the solidarity of the American republics, our NATO alliances in the West, our SEATO alliances in the East.

And this spirit of unity imposes upon us this restraint: as issues and conflicts may arise between two or more nations who are allied with us in freedom, we cannot become impassioned champions of one side or the other. Our task is to try always to heal

any such conflicts—in fairness, in justice and in the name of the greater unity we seek to serve. This task is not always easy. But it is always necessary.

Within this unity of free peoples, we carry both a responsibility and initiative uniquely our own. When we occasionally differ with some allies, we are, as a free people, simply being true both to ourselves and to our common cause. Thus, not long ago, facing a grave crisis in Indo-China inherited from the past, we spoke both more forcefully and hopefully than did some of our allies. As a result, we today point to the free nation of Viet-Nam—free not only from Communist rule, but also from any mark of colonial domination.

We face, in these days, another grave crisis concerning the Suez Canal. We have spoken with care and with restraint. We cannot yet know whether the issue can be settled with justice and fairness to all. But we can know that the world will know that America has spared no effort to save peace.

The full measure of our work for peace can be simply summarized. We have seen an end to the old pattern of tragedy: not a single nation has been surrendered to aggression. We have maintained this defense of freedom without recourse to war. And we have embraced, in this defense-without-war, lands in Asia—such as Formosa—previously written off as beyond the practical reach of our concern.

These are some of the reasons why I can say to you tonight: the pledge of peace, made to you upon the day of my inauguration, has been pursued—firmly and effectively.

IV.

Our task is far from done. New problems, and critical ones, rise before us. And they give to our generation this warning: there are walking beside us, at this moment of history, our two constant companions: great danger—and great opportunity.

We witness, as we scan this divided world, a number of grave problems. I wish briefly to state four of them.

First: We witness today, across a vast middle-area of our earth, an historic struggle by its peoples for freedom—freedom from foreign rule or freedom from domestic poverty. In this great belt, from the deserts of Northern Africa across to the islands of the South Pacific, there live 800 million persons—one third of the world's population. And through all these lands, Communist voices cry out to all men—to hate the West.

We act in this area by a few clear principles. We respect the right of all peoples, able and ready to govern themselves, to be free to do so. We realize that the future role of the West, with all these peoples, must ultimately be one not of rule—but of partnership. And we know that this role will require us—for the sake of the peace of the world—to strive to help these struggling peoples to rise from poverty and need.

Second: We witness today, in the power of nuclear weapons a new and deadly dimension to the ancient horror of war. Humanity has now achieved, for the first time in its history, the power to end its history.

This truth must guide our every deed. It makes world disarmament a necessity of world life. For I repeat again this simple declaration: the only way to win World War III is to prevent it.

Third: We witness today—partly as a result of Western unity and strength—the turning of Communist world ambition toward new methods and devices. These methods are, first of all, political. They mean—across the world, within each country—new and powerful Communist effort to win with the ballot what they have been unable to win with the bayonet.

We can meet this threat with neither anger against allies nor scorn for neutrals. But we can be vigilant, patient and comprehending. We can, in the name of freedom itself, remind our allies of their responsibilities within their frontiers. And we can, as we address all neutral nations, remind them that there is no neutrality between right and wrong. And, therefore, there is one issue on which we are not neutral—their right to stay free.

Finally: We witness today, in the economic arena, the rise of the first great industrial power to challenge the West. This power is the Soviet Union—with its steel production, its heavy machinery, its natural resources, its technical skills.

This power, as it is pitted against the West, will demand of us many things. It will demand the most vigorous economy of our history. It will demand the technical training of our youth as a direct concern of national security. And it will demand, among the governments of the free nations, the closest possible coordination of economic action.

Such—in the simplest of forms—are some of the great problems we face.

There are—let me state plainly and immediately—some ways not to meet these problems, as they must be met: with wisdom and strength.

We cannot prove wise and strong with public speech that erroneously asserts our economic weakness. For the people of the world and the leaders of the Soviet Union must never be deceived—or delighted—by any myth of American weakness. They must know the truth of our strength.

We cannot prove wise and strong by any such simple device as suspending, unilaterally, our H-bomb tests. Our atomic knowledge and power have forged the saving shield of freedom. And the future use and control of atomic power can be assured, not by any theatrical national gesture—but only by explicit and supervised international agreements.

We cannot prove wise and strong by hinting that our military draft might soon be suspended—even though every family naturally hopes for the day when it might be possible. This—I state categorically—cannot be done under world conditions of today. It would weaken our armed forces. It would propagate neutralist sentiment everywhere. It would shock our allies who are calling upon their people to shoulder arms in our common cause.

We cannot—in short—face the future simply by walking into the past—backwards.

We cannot salute the future with bold words—while we surrender it with feeble deeds.

Now I suggest only a few plain principles by which we can and must direct our quest of world peace.

We must maintain our military strength: balancing it and perfecting it, in weapons and in strategy, so that its sheer effectiveness will restrain any aggressor.

We must perfect such military strength in ways that impose the least possible penalty upon our economic strength, for upon the economic arena Communism is now focusing its power and strategy.

We must act with the knowledge that peace can be sustained, for all the world, only with wider and growing markets, rising living standards, and flourishing world trade among the free nations.

We must put effort, skill and faith in our diplomacy—tested, as it has been through these last years—for upon it ultimately will depend the prevention of World War III.

And we must practice this truth: the honor and strength of our own national life offer the clearest proof of the kind of world and the kind of peace in which we believe.

This truth touches the lives of each one of us.

We cannot encourage economic strength in other lands—if we, for political expediency, again let loose forces of inflation that would weaken our own economy.

We cannot urge unity of purpose upon all free nations—if we ourselves were to think and act, not as one people, but as a divided and discordant nation.

And we cannot claim the trust of hundreds of millions of people across Asia and Africa—if we, in a free America, do not ourselves hold high the banner of equality and justice for all.

All this is what I meant when I said, three years ago:

“Whatever America hopes to bring to pass in the world must first come to pass in the heart of America.”

v.

I have tonight, my fellow citizens, submitted to you a kind of personal report on the state of our nation. I have sought to define clearly the many meanings, to me, of this one word—Peace.

For the peace of which I speak embraces the home and the toil, the hope and the fortune, of each and all of us.

This peace, therefore, is no static thing, no passive mood.

It is not a prize. It is a quest.

It is not a present to be received. It is a principle to be respected.

It inspires not relaxation, but resourcefulness—not stagnation, but stamina.

Now, my friends, upon the day when I took the oath to serve you in this office, I spoke my abiding conviction:

“The peace we seek . . . is nothing less than the practice and fulfillment of our whole faith, among ourselves and in our dealings with others.

“More than an escape from death, it is a way of life.

“More than a haven for the weary, it is a hope for the brave.”

If this be our faith, I humbly believe that we may ask the blessings of God upon our labors.

Thank you and good night.

211 ¶ Remarks at the National Field Days and
Plowing Matches, Colfax, Iowa.

September 21, 1956

Mr. Chairman, distinguished guests, my fellow Americans:

We are in the midst of a political campaign, so the first statement that I make to you you will find difficult to believe. I shall not make a political speech. In fact, I shall not make a speech at all. I want merely to express to you people some thoughts that

I feel today as I have this great opportunity to mingle with so many of my fellow Americans.

First of all, I am here because I have wanted to repay the great compliment tendered me by your officers when they asked me to act as Honorary Chairman of the National Field Day, and I am to have the privilege of presenting some of the awards to the winners.

Secondly, I wanted to come back here because in this Great Plains region was where I was raised. I am quite sure that the boy who was raised on the city streets sees nothing particularly beautiful in the black of fresh-turned soil, but anyone who was raised in the Mississippi Valley does. Moreover, such a boy raised in the city would probably find nothing particularly to admire in a long straight furrow stretching out across a quarter section. But if he had—as I have—followed a walking plow when he was so small that he had to reach up to the handle instead of down, he would know what it means to plow a straight furrow.

What I am trying to say to you, my friends, is this. When I come back to this great central granary of the United States, I feel at home. And I have exactly the same feelings of homecoming that anybody does when he comes back to the scenes of his boyhood, the places where he was reared.

Then I wanted to come back today because this National Field Day this year is dedicated particularly to soil conservation. I have a young brother who has spent his life in the study of soil in the universities—the State universities of two great States—and he long ago converted me to the need for having an eye for preserving our heritage of soil and water resources for the future. I believe in it thoroughly, and when I heard there was going to be both contour and straight plowing, I had an added reason for coming. And your officers have taken me through a tent where they are showing exactly how much feed it takes to produce a thousand pounds of beef to put on the city workers' table. I have learned a lot. If I could stay longer I would learn much more.

And, my friends, I come today to pay my respects to the plow. Ever since I had the invitation to this meeting, I have been trying to think in my mind of some instrument invented by man that has meant more to him than the plow. I can think of none. In fact, the plow has become the symbol for peace—in the Bible—in trying to talk about that wonderful future time when there shall be no war and we shall beat our swords into plowshares.

So the plow is a symbol of peace, as the sword is of war. And I think, therefore, that no group of American citizens can feel closer to peace, feel closer to the need for peace, than does the great agricultural community.

Finally, I came to pay my respects to the men and women who produce the food and fiber of these United States. You use different methods than were used in western Kansas fifty and more years ago when I was a boy. Great tractors have taken the place of our horses and mules. You have combines where we had binders in the past. In every way you have improved your efficiency, so much so that today each man on the farm produces food and fiber for 18 of his fellow Americans at a scale level of efficiency never before reached in our farming life. In fact, I believe at the time of our Constitution, there was something like 95% of the population that was rural. At the time of Lincoln, it was about half and half; and now some twelve percent.

So each year the farmer grows more efficient, and yet the farmer has special problems. And, my friends, within a few days I expect to make a talk—a talk to other Americans in another area, where I will make the main point of that talk the problems of the farm, the special problems of the farm, and the special treatment they should receive.

Now many of you here will not agree with me. Some of you, frankly, will probably think I am a little bit crazy, but I am quite sure that none of you will think that I am not honest. Whatever I have to say in this field in telling you what I believe, I hope of course will achieve the earned approval of each of you. I know that it's too much to hope. We are humans. Each has his special

problems that he places above all others. But nevertheless, I hold this to be true: if all of us approach all of these problems—the great one of peace, the internal one of the farm problem and others, if we approach them as Americans and in a spirit of conciliation and give-and-take, we shall find right answers.

Only yesterday morning I met in Washington with the advisory committee that I have met most with of the many advisory committees that we have in government on their own time. This was the Agricultural Advisory Committee. On it are men of letters from Cornell and other great universities. There are actual working farmers. There are men who represent the farmers union and the other farming organizations. But as a unit they are the people that help devise every plan, every idea that I have that affects the relationship of the government to Americans, and in this case especially to the farming community.

So, as far as we are able, we get the most efficient, the most widespread kind of counsel that we can. Those ideas, as I say, I shall try to explain shortly—in a week or so.

In the meantime, let me express to each of you here, possibly through you to all of the citizens of Iowa we have chanced to glimpse, the very great appreciation of Mrs. Eisenhower and myself for the cordiality of the welcome we have received along the roadside and in the cities. Everywhere we have encountered a warmth of hospitality that has lifted up our hearts.

And before I sit down, I should like to thank two specific organizations here. One, this fife and drum band over here on the left which has done so much to entertain us; the other the Women's Air Force Band, which I think is probably the equal of any others in our Services—at least I am certainly proud of them.

Now, my friends, I trust that no matter what my duties in the future are, that I can come back more and more frequently to these National Field Days that you have. They seem to me to be rich in all that is good in America's traditions. There is friendliness. There is a cooperative attitude. There is a desire for

opportunity, rather than for mere security—although we know that security is necessary.

So I feel, as I told you before, at home. And when a man feels at home, he is happy. I have been happy today, and you have made it so.

Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 1:06 p. m. His opening words "Mr. Chairman" referred to J. Merrill Anderson, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the National Field Days and Plowing Matches.

212 ¶ Remarks to Republican Leaders and Precinct Workers and a Group of Newspaper Editors, Des Moines, Iowa. *September 21, 1956*

Governor Hoegh, Senator Hickenlooper, and my fellow Americans:

For the last couple of days I have been very non-political and I can't stand it any more, and I turn over a new leaf right now.

I come just from a trip through your city where Mrs. Eisenhower and I witnessed a turnout that we have certainly never seen in a city anywhere near this size before in our lives. We are deeply grateful.

Now in recent months, my friends, I have been talking a great deal about the Republican Party as the party of the future. In talking about what we expect to be its accomplishments, we naturally assume that we are going to have the finest kind of individuals that this country can produce in positions of authority.

And I want, here, to pay tribute to your two Senators from this State—Senator Hickenlooper and Senator Martin. They have been leaders in what I call Republicanism adjusted to the conditions of modern life. They are progressive Republicans. You have in your Governor the same kind of person; you have in your Republican Members of the Lower House—I don't believe

they like that term—the Republican Members of the United States House of Representatives.

If an outsider from your State dare through his in-law relationship to make a recommendation, it would be that you keep these people in their present and higher positions for a long, long time to come—and you will be well served.

I have urged people going out in this political campaign, that are detailed on the team of speechmakers, to remember one thing: they have got a great story to tell, in the simple unadorned truth.

Comparing 1952 to 1956, whether it be on the international or on the internal domestic and economic front, sees 1956 better in every single way.

By no means are Republicans stupid enough to claim credit for every advance that has been made in the last four years. But they have tried and have succeeded, I submit, in establishing an atmosphere in government that encourages every single human being to do his best—assured that what he gains for himself will be under his own initiative and that he can keep it, subject to the necessity of paying his fair share of the taxes that his country demands and needs.

So when we talk about a forward-looking government, we are talking about the kind of government that does its own part in helping to look after the human needs of this country, and then puts every possible part of this authority and responsibility for doing that in the human being himself.

Government does not try to be “big brother knows better than you do.” No matter what the problem, whether it be in the field of power or the field of finance, or any other field, we believe that the closer you keep government to home, where the people who pay the taxes can watch that money being spent, with their desire to see it spent efficiently and effectively and economically, that is the best kind of government.

This by no means denies the responsibility of the Federal government to take leadership in a thousand different directions

where by its aid, by its credit, by its position of leadership, it can help to solve these great human problems that still remain before us.

That is the Republican Party of today.

That is what your Senators, your Governor, your Members in the House of Representatives are now committed to—and are doing. They are doing it for the good of 168 million Americans.

No less, they are committed to no group, to no special interest, and they yield to no particular pressure. They have one real motive, only one: Is this measure good for 168 million Americans? If it is, get behind it and shove! If it is not, don't let them sell it to you, no matter how attractive it looks for votes or anything else.

My friends, as you well know, I was scheduled merely to bring you greetings. This I do from the bottom of my heart. I thank you for the cordiality of your welcome. I thank you for what you are doing now in this critical period of the election year—making certain that you are registered and ready to vote, making certain that your neighbors are ready to vote.

And I say to you this: In this matter of registration and being prepared to vote, let us see whether we can get 100 percent of Americans out. We have no fear of the judgment of all America. The only thing we need to fear—ever—is the judgment of the minority.

So, even if someone feels they must vote against us, let us still make sure they vote, because the first step toward the losing of our freedoms is refusing to exercise the freedom to vote. That we must do. Let it be your watchword now, and then when you are sure that everybody has voted, remember this: We have got a story that will convert every discerning Democrat, and we can get their votes after we have got them registered.

So, go to it!

God bless you for coming out and giving us this warm greeting. All our friends from Boone and from Des Moines and all over this

State of Iowa—thank you very much indeed on behalf of Mrs. Eisenhower and me.

NOTE: The President spoke at the Municipal Airport at 3:00 p. m.

213 ¶ Letter to Representative Keating of New York Concerning the Admission of European Refugees and Escapees. *September 25, 1956*

[Released September 25, 1956. Dated September 24, 1956]

Dear Ken:

I am delighted to learn of your forthcoming visit to Europe in the interest of refugees and escapees.

It is fundamental that free America remain an asylum for a substantial number of those who continue to risk their lives to reach freedom. I was, therefore, greatly disappointed that the Congress failed to heed my several requests to pass legislation to preserve this noble role of America in the world. It was no less than a tragedy for the people directly concerned abroad. Only nine days before the Congress adjourned, I emphasized my feelings about this in a letter of July 18 to Senator Arthur Watkins. I pointed out that this legislation was urgently needed in a critical situation, and was fully in the spirit of one of our country's proudest traditions—that of offering a haven to the persecuted and oppressed.

I will, of course, again urge such legislation in the next session of the Congress.

And I do hope that your present mission will help you to carry forward even more vigorously your efforts to persuade the House Committee on the Judiciary and the Congress of the need for early and favorable action in this field.

Sincerely,

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

NOTE: Representative Kenneth B. Keating, a member of a subcommittee of the House Judiciary Committee responsible for legislation in aid of escapees and refugees, was an alternate member on the U. S. Dele-

gation to the semiannual meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee for European Migration. His letter is dated September 20.

The President's letter of July 18 to Senator Watkins was not released.

214 ¶ Address at Bradley University, Peoria, Illinois. *September 25, 1956*

[Broadcast over radio and television at 8:30 p. m.]

Governor Stratton, Dr. Rodes, faculty and students of Bradley College, citizens of Peoria and of all Illinois—and my Fellow Americans:

The gracious hospitality of the people of this State is heartwarming indeed. I deeply appreciate your gracious greeting.

Especially I thank your chief executive—Governor Stratton. I have a strong liking for a man when he finds anything wrong in government he doesn't fool around but cleans it up fast.

I am glad to see here one who has become during these past four years my very good friend—Senator Everett Dirksen. He's a tough and good fighter—and I ought to know. These last years I have often asked his help and always he has given it wholeheartedly. Our program in Congress is the better for it. Our country needs Everett Dirksen back in the United States Senate.

Now, among the able contingent of Republicans that Illinois has in the United States House of Representatives are three that I would like to mention especially by name. Two of them have been my close associates in all policy meetings in the Republican leadership during the past several years. They are Les Arends and Leo Allen, and I think I would be remiss unless I mentioned one of the outstanding women Members of Congress, Mrs. Church.

Finally, I have had another good visit with Peoria's own son—Robert Michel. I most earnestly hope that he will soon represent this Congressional District. And I hope a lot more Republicans join him in the Congress.

Now tonight, my friends, I want to talk some facts to farm people. Now, of course, I do not address them as a group apart. In the broad sweep of governmental activity and of our way of life, they want the same things all other Americans want.

They want a government which is honest and thrifty, high in principle, and fair in practice.

They want an America of widening opportunity for all its citizens.

And they want an America able to guard and save the peace.

And they want all, not just some, of these things—for all these things are vital to the kind of America in which we believe: an America whose prosperity flourishes when we are at peace.

No farmer—no citizen—really believes in any theory of our nation divided into sealed compartments—so that a political promise made in one area is not supposed to be heard in another. No farmer—nor any citizen—will trust politicians who go to the cities to denounce inflation and come to the country to promise loose credit.

And, my friends, no citizen will trust any politician who promises expanded governmental expenditures, reduced taxes, and—at the same time—a balanced budget.

So let us—I repeat—talk facts—and begin with a little recent history.

For almost ten years, as farmers' costs have gone up, year after year farm prices have gone down. There are two exceptions when prices went up. One was the tragic year when Korean battlefields provided the kind of market that no one wants. The other is this year. And this year, there is no war.

What mainly caused that long, discouraging decline?

One thing only: political expediency in Washington, D. C.—

the refusal of high officials, after World War II, to help farmers readjust their production to the needs of peace.

And what were the results?

For one—Uncle Sam himself took up farming. Synthetic farmers behind Washington desks started telling farmers all over again what crops to plant—how much to grow—the amount to market—the price to charge. You know, farming looks mighty easy when your plow is a pencil, and you're a thousand miles from the corn field.

So vast surpluses were buried away in government warehouses—those too are the results of politicking at the farmers' expense.

Now to the farmer—for all the rest of us—what have these results meant?

These things:

The value of the government stockpile of farm surpluses climbed to nine billion dollars.

The cost of storage alone has been one million dollars a day—none of it going to the farmers—and with farmers helping to pay the bill.

And these surpluses, by holding down farm prices, last year cost farm people some two billion dollars.

Beyond these things, we must credit the Democratic farm programs with an historic but hardly a commendable achievement.

You remember that in 1951 farm prices started back down in the very middle of the Korean War. In late 1952—the war still on—farm prices suddenly dropped faster than in any like period in recent years.

Now it takes rare talent to force farm prices down in the middle of a war. I have the feeling that in November farmers will see that that accomplishment gets its just reward.

Now you remember where agriculture was four years ago when the opposition political party still had to perform as well as talk. Here is where it was: Farm prices dropping—production unbalanced—world markets shrinking—surpluses soaring—farmers

discouraged—and farm boys—many of them—in foxholes in Korea.

And yet, some politicians say that—to counteract the poisons spread by the old farm programs—farmers ought to swallow now the same programs all over again.

That line of thinking suggests that old story of Abe Lincoln's about a fence and a pig. The fence was so crooked that every time the pig went through it, he came out the same side he went in.

Lately it seems some people have gone the pig one better. On price supports they've come out on both sides of the fence.

So looking back to our starting point, I'd say we have come pretty far in 45 months. I offer a few facts to support that statement.

We freed peacetime agriculture from programs designed for war.

We eliminated stifling wartime controls.

We attacked menacing surpluses—head-on.

We regained many of the lost markets.

We helped the lowest-income people in agriculture.

We brought social security for the first time to operators of family farms.

We refunded to farmers the \$60,000,000-a-year Federal tax on farm gasoline.

We started the great St. Lawrence Seaway project—the 30-year dream of Midwestern farm families.

We built a new program to meet the special needs of the dust bowl and the Great Plains.

We strengthened the sound farm programs.

And—we turned prices back up—without a war.

Now these accomplishments, important in themselves, may mean only a start—but they are a good start—on the great job ahead of us.

I have two things to say about this beginning.

First, the old price-depressing Democratic farm programs

stayed in effect right up to harvest last year. Relentlessly they drove prices down as they had for years before. Eighty-five per cent of the price decline after the Korean War inflation came while rigid price supports were still in effect. Our opponents today are criticising the mess that they themselves left behind.

Second, recent developments prove that the clean-up part of our job is well on its way. Now agriculture has assurance again of a good future.

Part of that assurance comes from our new soil bank.

By stopping overproduction, the soil bank will stop more surpluses from building up. That's a great victory for every farmer and every taxpayer in America.

By withdrawing lands from cultivation, the soil bank conserves priceless soil for the future. That's a victory for every citizen in the land.

By providing special payments, the soil bank protects farmers' income while we use up the surpluses already on hand. Mark up another victory for the farmer.

This year the soil bank is retiring over 12 million acres and earning a half million farmers more than \$260 million. When next year it retires 40 to 50 million acres, overproduction will start coming under control. That means better times for every farmer.

The opposition had a political field day on the soil bank. I asked for it on January 9. After that, I asked—time and again—for speed. In April the opposition passed a jumbled up bill ruinous to farmers. I vetoed that political grabbag and requested a workable program. This too was held up—hardly by accident—until after spring planting was done. That unnecessary delay cost farmers a full year in getting rid of the surpluses—their two billion dollar millstone. But we moved promptly to shore up farm income until we could make up for the time lost by the opposition politicking. The Administration raised 1956 price supports for wheat, corn, rice and dairy products, and extended the price support program to corn not under acreage control in the commercial states.

Now, some in the opposition party have claimed that they thought of the soil bank first. Now that I doubt, but I don't know what difference it makes. Just thinking about it is mighty little help. The opposition had 20 years to pass such a law. Instead they built up surpluses—going exactly in the opposite direction.

Now, what about the huge surpluses already on hand?

We have worked long and hard to regain world markets lost or dried up when we took office.

By June 1954, farm exports were up 4 percent, the following year, 7 percent more; last June, another 11 percent. Last year we moved two billion seven hundred million dollars worth of government stocks—a record amount. That was three times the amount moved in 1952 by our fast-talking, slow-acting opposition. With one exception—cotton—peacetime shipments of farm products are now the highest in 30 years.

Now the surpluses are in use at home too. Today five million of our people get government-owned food. Eleven million school children are served by the school lunch program. Low-cost milk is going to more than 62,000 schools. We have greatly expanded these programs. We will expand them still more.

All this adds up to one important fact: the toughest problems—lost markets, overproduction, surpluses—are giving way. Now opening up for farm people are brighter peacetime prospects than they have had for years.

Other dramatic advances add strength to those prospects.

First is our new Rural Development Program to help the lowest income families in farming. This is the first, widely coordinated, massive, Federal-State-Local effort ever directed toward helping the lowest income people in farming. The old rigid price support programs have always by-passed these 1½ million families while helping the big farms to get bigger. Now we are helping these neglected families get part-time jobs—easier credit—special training—technical advice—community guidance. This program promises low-income families a better future than they have ever known.

In this connection, I asked the Congress last January to study limiting the price support payments to any one individual. You know, some individual payments run over a million dollars. Now the opposition in Congress decided against any limitation—they were really too busy talking about their interest in the little farmer, but it was a strange way to show real concern for him.

Next, we expanded farm credit—another reason for new confidence. Our new law is especially helpful to young folks—many of them veterans—who borrowed heavily to start farming a few years back. Today the farm credit program is the best in history. The farm people have more say about farm credit management than ever before.

The list of accomplishments goes on—emergency help to farmers and ranchers suffering from such natural disasters as floods and droughts—broadened soil and water conservation—strengthened soil conservation districts—special programs to relieve market gluts of perishables—and expanded research and education.

Such are the things we have done toward rebuilding agriculture, so farm families can share fully in our country's prosperity. In that effort we must and do make good use of that valuable tool—price supports.

But let's get this point clear:

Rigidly fixing price supports at 90 percent of parity without regard to supply conditions—and so encouraging surpluses that depress market prices—is for the farmer, mockery and deceit. That kind of program compels drastic quotas, allotments, government regulation. It robs the farmer of a chance for full income parity. It is a program for politicians, not for farmers.

Full income parity is a full share in our country's good times. In a free agriculture, farmers can attain that kind of parity only in the market place. That's what I spoke for at Kasson four years ago: the attainment of that full share for the farmer—the preservation of a free agriculture. That's what I have been working for. I shall keep on working for it.

And the facts show good progress.

Today farm foreclosures are near an all-time low.

Today more farm operators own their farms than ever before.

Today the value of farm lands is at an all-time high.

Today farm income is at a billion dollar rate above last year.

And the long decline in farm prices has stopped. Prices today are higher than last April when I vetoed the hodge-podge that the politicians called a farm bill. Prices are 7 per cent higher than last December. They are higher than a year ago when high rigid price supports still applied to the so-called basic crops. This, of course, is no final solution. But—I repeat—this is a good start in the right direction.

Here are the ways we will continue in that same direction.

We will use the new soil bank to its full potential to bolster farm prices, conserve our soil, and balance farm production.

We will continue rapidly to use up our huge surpluses constructively at home and abroad.

We will maintain price supports carrying the essential principle of flexibility both to avoid the hurtful effects of high rigid supports and to encourage the production of crops in short supply.

We will keep the farm credit program, today the best in history, adjusted to the needs of family farmers.

We will carry forward our expanded soil and water conservation programs.

We will use special programs to relieve periodic market congestion of perishable farm products.

We will continue expanding the new Rural Development Program, bringing a real and long-denied opportunity to farm families at the bottom of the economic ladder in agriculture.

We will continue emergency help to farmers and ranchers beset by natural disasters.

We will keep expanding agricultural research to develop new crops, new uses, new markets.

We will continue to strengthen such long-established, indispensable programs as rural electrification and rural telephone service.

And we will keep doing all else that is fair and constructive—all that is not political quackery—to bring our farm people the only kind of prosperity they want—prosperity that can be enjoyed in time of peace.

This final thought I want to leave with you.

Tonight I have talked mainly of farming. But I realize that other things mean at least as much to you and to your family.

I remind you of the contrast between today and the life we knew—and the government we knew—four years ago. In foreign policy and in farm policy—in military affairs and in fiscal affairs—in states' rights and in civil rights—in tax policy and in labor policy.

Where there was confusion then, today there is sense and order.

Where there was laxity, there is integrity.

Where there was doubt, there is confidence.

My friends, I believe that these facts plainly mark the path of our nation's progress.

If you also believe this—if you want to keep on this way, then each of you must do your part to the full in making your decision clear and emphatic.

Whatever you believe, my fellow citizens, you know what your personal role in this coming decision must be: To register—to get all your friends to register—to vote—to get all your friends to vote—so that on November 6th your voices—the voices of all of you—will be heard.

Your decision can then assure and direct our progress in the years ahead—progress in our farm life, and in our whole national life—progress toward our great goal: The prosperity of our people, strong and free, in a world of peace.

Thank you very much, my friends.

NOTE: The President spoke at the University Field House, at 8:30 p. m. His opening words "Governor Stratton, Dr. Rodes" referred to William G. Stratton, Governor of Illinois, and Harold P. Rodes, President of Bradley University.

215 ¶ Statement by the President Regarding
Trials Following the Poznan Riots in Poland.

September 26, 1956

RECENT NEWS from Poland indicates that at least some of the persons arrested in connection with the Poznan riots are soon to be put on trial. Friends of freedom throughout the world will be hoping that all of the accused will be given a genuinely fair and open trial with bonafide legal counsel to defend them and with an opportunity to speak their minds freely without fear of subsequent retribution and deportation eastward.

This would provide tangible evidence that some so-called Stalinist methods will be abandoned in practice as well as in theory. However, the limited information released publicly in Poland thus far regarding the trials is in no way reassuring. Apparently not even a complete list of those arrested has been made public.

Whatever the outcome of the trials, whatever the immediate and long term effects of the Poznan riots, one fact has become clearer than ever. There can be no permanent solution of the situation in Poland until the Polish people are given an opportunity to elect a Government of their own choosing.

The basic problem in Poland is not what particular type of economic or social system shall prevail; that is something which the Polish people can and should decide for themselves. What is essential is that they be given the opportunity to do so in free and unfettered elections.

216 ¶ The President's News Conference of
September 27, 1956.

THE PRESIDENT. Be seated.

Ladies and gentlemen, I should like to take one minute to pay a tribute to Mrs. Zaharias, Babe Didrikson. She was a woman who, in her athletic career, certainly won the admiration of every person in the United States, all sports people over the world, and in her gallant fight against cancer she put up one of the kind of fights that inspired us all.

I think that every one of us feels sad that finally she had to lose this last one of all her battles.

Any questions?

Q. Robert E. Clark, International News Service: Mr. President, your campaign schedule seems to have undergone considerable expansion since we last talked to you. Can you tell us how much more speechmaking you now plan to do than you originally intended, and whether you feel that your health places any limitation on the extent of your campaign activities?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, to answer your second question first, as far as I know, there is no health question involved whatsoever at the moment.

As I told you long ago, I lead a somewhat more ordered life than I did at one time. I try to get to bed regularly, and all that sort of thing.

However, as far as I can determine any effect of any of the efforts I have made, either swinging a golf club or on a campaign tour, there has been no effect whatsoever.

Now, let's see, I have been out of town, went out to Des Moines, went out to Peoria, I am going to Kentucky, and I am going to Pittsburgh. From there on I don't know the exact schedule. I have got one more that I know.

I would say, yes, I am probably doing a little bit more than I originally planned in my own mind; but I will tell you one thing:

I am not doing one-tenth of what a lot of people want me to do.
[*Laughter*]

Q. Merriman Smith, United Press: Mr. President, we are well aware, sir, of your disinclination to discuss personalities or to deal in them. But Governor Stevenson doesn't feel quite the same way. Governor Stevenson said last night that you show a consistent rejection of the positive responsibilities of leadership. Would you like to talk to that point, sir?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I think I should be the last person in the world to talk about my own qualifications as a leader. But the United States is filled with people who have been my associates, on my staffs, and my superiors over the past 15 years, and I think I would rather call on them.

I do hold as one of the most magnificent compliments I ever got a few paragraphs on this subject by Winston Churchill; and I personally think he knows me a little better than some of my critics.

Q. Ray L. Scherer, National Broadcasting Company: Mr. President, again on Mr. Stevenson, how do you feel about the propriety of the opposition bringing your brother Milton into the campaign?

THE PRESIDENT. When I saw the nature of this charge made, I immediately directed the State Department to prepare a full report to me on every connection that my brother has had with the State Department in our efforts to promote better feeling and better cooperation, and a more effective organization with all the American States.

When that has been submitted to me, I am going to give it to you people without comment. Now, the comments I will make, therefore, are just to one or two of the charges made.

I understand that they are very disturbed that the United States Government gave Mr. Peron's government more than \$100 million. The charge was made that that was mostly put in the Swiss banks for Mr. Peron's benefit.

It is true the Government loaned Mr. Peron's government \$130

million, but it wasn't a Republican government. It was the Democratic government in 1950 and '51; and from the time I came in until Peron went out, the Government did not sign one single loan agreement with Mr. Peron. So this \$100 million, if this story is true, I regret also, but don't come to me with it.

In the second place, we have studied numbers of ways in which we felt that some effective cooperation might be brought about. There had been under study for a long time a steel mill, but we never signed that agreement until after the new government came in, and since the new government came in, this Government has extended \$160 million, I believe is the sum, in credits, but that is the new government.

Now, one other thing I would like to say: when my brother went down, gave up his vacation at the request of the Secretary of State and myself, to try to revitalize the spirit of partnership among the 21 American Governments, one of the things that was brought to me was by the head of one of the press associations. He pointed out that the facilities for these three press associations in Argentina had just been either confiscated or repressed, I have forgotten the exact details, but they weren't usable any more. There was really a censorship on them.

So one of the things we charged my brother with was to get that lifted.

He got the promise and 24 hours after he left the Argentine those three press associations were again operating. I just looked at my correspondence this morning, and I think it was November of that year, one of these press association heads wrote to me and said, "We have regained at least most of our clients that we lost through this illegal and terrible operation."

One other point: my brother has never acted except on the request of the State Department, through the State Department, and he has not attempted to fix any policy for South America. His report, by the way, was published.

Q. Pat Munroe, Albuquerque Journal: Mr. President, we have been able to determine, after some effort, that spending by

Members of Congress on foreign travel probably hit an all-time high last year. It averages out at several thousand dollars per capita. Yet we are unable to find out who spent what, where, and when of the public's money.

In New Mexico all candidates for Congress from both parties have pledged themselves to a full accounting in the future, and I would like to ask you if, as leader of your party, you would favor a pledge by Republican candidates in other States to vote for a joint resolution at the next session calling for an exact accounting of such spending by individual Members?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, now, I don't know exactly how it ought to be done, and whether we ought to just take a pledge and let it go at that.

I believe every cent of money spent in that way ought to be accounted for by voucher and exactly.

As I told you the last time, either you or someone else raised the question, it is my understanding that there was an agreement that only the chairmen of the committees could give it out. But I think that now that the question is raised, we have looked into it this far, I think we ought to have some method by which these figures are published. I see no reason why they should be secret.

Q. Alan S. Emory, Watertown Times: Mr. President, in your Peoria speech you mentioned plans for a program to relieve periodic market congestion of perishable farm commodities. Are you able at this time to spell out that plan any more, sir?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, no, except that the Department has funds which they can use for the purchase of different types of supplies that can be used advantageously in any of the programs that we sustained. So with that money, once you get a temporary market glut, why, they move in and operate. They have in the past, and they have money to do it in the future.

Q. Raymond P. Brandt, St. Louis Post-Dispatch: Mr. President, in Iowa we heard that the payments on the soil bank allotments had been delayed. Could you tell us what money has been

disbursed on the soil bank, and the schedule for the later payments?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, Mr. Brandt, I can't tell you the exact schedule, of course not.

The last report I had was about \$260 million had gone out.

Let's remember this: we first asked for the soil bank in January. It was not enacted in time to get in before planting time. So when it did go, there was necessarily a push that may have resulted in some administrative differences, in different places.

But I would say this: the whole effort is to be fair and to make this a voluntary program.

If the man comes in, there is a local administration, you see, that gives the biggest possible local influence in the matter as to how much to be paid; and they should be paid promptly. Now, I don't know of any reason why Iowa should be held up.

Q. Mr. Brandt: Secretary Benson said last night of the \$260 million that has been earned, or whatever phrase you want to use, \$10 million had been disbursed already, and about \$100 million would be disbursed in the next 2 or 3 months. Is that near the schedule?

THE PRESIDENT. No. As a matter of fact, I understood that \$260 million would all be paid out this year.

Q. Mr. Brandt: This year?

THE PRESIDENT. I could be wrong, and I will look it up; but that is what I understood.

Q. Edward P. Morgan, American Broadcasting Company: Mr. President, Egypt has been blockading shipping to Israel for the better part of some 7 years. Both your administration and the previous Democratic administration have repeatedly protested to Cairo the treatment of American ships involved in that blockade. Against that background, sir, and if force is not used, can you tell us any reason to hope that Egypt would react favorably to the West's request on the administration of the Suez Canal now?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, of course, that is a black mark that has stood there for a long time. I personally think it is most unjust, and I believe it is not in accord with the 1888 treaty.

The great hope is now this: that the users of the canal, showing such a unanimity in what they believe should be a proper, let's say, set of rules, the procedures to be observed, that Egypt will see that her own best interests lie in the same way—because these 18 nations, I believe they account for more than 90 percent of the traffic that goes through that canal.

Now, if they are successful in getting an ad hoc method, a provisional method of operation, and finally can get something that is at least similar to or, let's say, represents the principles made in the first proposal, I would think this particular thing should be cured at the same time.

Q. Robert L. Riggs, Louisville Courier-Journal: Mr. President, the three Republican committees put out what they call a comic book for the campaign calling it "Eisenhower-Nixon." It's got pictures and texts in it. And one part of the text says, "More people are employed today than ever before. There are four million more jobs now in peacetime than the Democrats had with their wars."

My question is: would you agree with Mr. Hall and Senator Schoeppel and Congressman Simpson that these were Democratic wars?

THE PRESIDENT. Look, just as I believe that every President is president of all the people, there is no such thing as a president of the Republicans, there is no such thing as a president of the Democrats. They may be thinking of something that I don't know anything about, but I don't believe when America gets into war we can afford to call it anything but our war.

Q. Douglas B. Cornell, Associated Press: Mr. President, the Vice President at Houston, Texas, was asked yesterday whether he had ever been a member of the NAACP. He said that he is an honorary member. One of the Associated Press members has

asked us to inquire of the candidates, including yourself, whether they are members of the NAACP. Are you, sir?

THE PRESIDENT. No, I am not. I will say this: once Walter White, who was then, I believe, secretary or maybe it was president, visited me in Europe. He had very high praise for some of the things I was doing, but he never suggested I be a member, honorary or otherwise.

Q. Mrs. May Craig, Portland (Maine) Press Herald: Mr. President, have you or will you suggest to Nehru of India that he make his postponed visit soon, which would give you an opportunity to talk to him about the Suez Canal?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, of course, Mrs. Craig, he doesn't have to be here exactly for me to talk to him about the Suez Canal——

Q. Mrs. Craig: Yes, I know.

THE PRESIDENT. ——but I have renewed my invitation, I think I said before. It is my belief he will be here this year——some time. But I don't think that we could expect it very, very quickly.

Q. Sarah McClendon, El Paso Times: Sir, the farmers seem very confused about some of the statements which you have made, Mr. Benson has made recently, and I have here before me the agricultural prices of August 31 from the Agriculture Department and the farm income situation, and they both show that prices which farmers are receiving are going down, and that farm income is going down, and that their costs are going up. And yet I find your speeches are contradictions to that. Would you have those figures re-examined?

THE PRESIDENT. No. You see, they went down for the month. I said that prices were 7 percent higher than they were a year ago. I said they were higher than they were last December, and they are.

Now, in the upward trend of prices, this month—and I think it is seasonal—there has been a slight drop on the end of that curve. But that doesn't mean that that drop is going to continue. We are higher than when rigid price supports were in effect one

year ago, and we are higher than we were last December when I vetoed that hodgepodge bill. So everything I have said on this is statistically correct.

Q. Martin S. Hayden, *Detroit News*: Mr. President, would you give us your comments on a statement that Vice President Nixon made in Colorado Springs Saturday night that a 4-day workweek is the logical result that workers can expect from a continuation of the Eisenhower administration policy?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, this is what I say: Length of workweeks, prices, wages, come about as result of the working of great economic forces and economic developments. An administration can, and certainly this one tries, to establish that kind of climate where everybody's efforts can be rewarded to the full.

We do not, by any manner of means, believe that Government should go and establish these things by fiat and say, "This is it." We establish the climate in which people can profit, people can work.

The exchange of telegrams, I believe, was made public. Mr. Reuther sent Mr. Nixon a long telegram, and I read Mr. Nixon's answer, and I see nothing wrong with it, whatsoever. I think that would represent my views.

If the day can come that we have a 4-day week, and people can have a greater time for leisure, recreation, and education and so on, why, wonderful. But no man can say it is going to come about because I say so.

Q. Charles L. Bartlett, *Chattanooga Times*: Mr. President, are you getting any reports from Vice President Nixon or any of your political colleagues indicating that this may be a closer race than you anticipated?

THE PRESIDENT. I think I have told you a number of times that I have not anticipated anything. I believe when you are in any contest you should work like there is always to the very last minute a chance to lose it. This is battle, this is politics, this is anything. So I just see no excuse if you believe anything enough for not putting your whole heart into it. It is what I do. I put

everything I have got into the jobs that I have to solve, and I would expect them to do it.

Now, with respect to reports, I talked to Mr. Nixon last night on the telephone. He seemed to be recovering from his indisposition. He was very happy, said he would be back in here, I believe, a week from today, and seemed to be highly pleased with what he encountered.

Q. John Herling, Editors Syndicate: Mr. President, the Textile Workers Union has just issued a report which declares the textile industry, ranging from north to south, is "a crisis for America," with a million textile workers and their families "condemned to an ever declining standard of living." Does the administration, sir, plan any action to cope with this situation so described?

THE PRESIDENT. One of the things that have been bothering all the textile manufacturers has been Japanese imports. Only this morning, I believe, there was announced and made public an exchange of notes voluntarily started by Japan, in which they laid out their program of voluntarily restricting imports into this country, the kind of step that I believe is constructive and helpful in this sort of thing.

Now, over and beyond that: as you know, I put in a program for helping depressed areas, depressed sections of the industry and geographical areas. It didn't get enacted, but I am going to recommend it again.

Q. Merriman Smith, United Press: Mr. President, why, sir, are you expanding or doing more campaigning than you originally planned?

THE PRESIDENT. Simply because there are so many representations made by such good friends that I think I am a little weak; I don't find it possible to decline all of them. As a matter of fact, let's remember this, all of us: when I said four or five or six or something of that character, I hadn't sat down myself and calculated what I would talk about, where it would be done, or anything else.

Now, I am not going to go barnstorming, and I am not going to do whistlestopping, but I am making two or three more talks than I had first contemplated.

Q. Hazel Markel, National Broadcasting Company: Mr. President, does this expanded program of yours for campaign include your secret weapon, the First Lady? [*Laughter*]

THE PRESIDENT. I think she will go with me every time that the plane trip is not so long and arduous, say, within a period of 48 hours. It would be too tiring for her.

Q. Kenneth M. Scheibel, Gannett News Service: In the Peoria speech you praised Governor Stratton and Senator Dirksen and some of the others, but you didn't mention the Secretary of Agriculture. Do you regard him as a political millstone or an asset in the campaign?

THE PRESIDENT. I have never thought of him as a political millstone or as a political asset. I thought of him as this: one of the finest, most dedicated public servants I have ever known, a man who is thoroughly acquainted with every phase of agriculture and puts his whole heart into doing something that he believes will be good for the long-term benefit of the farmers of America.

It never occurred to me I hadn't mentioned him, but it seems to be politically a habit to mention the local figures in your party when you are present. Governor Stratton was there and I mentioned him, and one or two others.

Q. Robert G. Spivack, New York Post: In New York State many voters are concerned over the possibility that Republican control of the Senate would restore Senator McCarthy to chairmanship of a key Senate committee. Would you comment on that possibility?

THE PRESIDENT. No.

Q. Clark R. Mollenhoff, Des Moines Register: Mr. President, at least four congressional committees in a period of the last few weeks have issued reports that were critical of what they termed

excessive secrecy that they felt covered up mismanagement in the operation of the Government.

Now, these committees contend that there is no court decision backing the broad proposition of executive secrecy, and I wondered if you could tell us if you feel that all employees of the Federal Government, at their own discretion, can determine whether they will testify or will not testify before congressional committees when there is no security problem involved?

THE PRESIDENT. I believe that the instructions are clear, that when there is no question of security, national security, involved, that everybody is supposed to testify freely before congressional committees.

I will have to look up the letters of instruction that have gone out.

Primarily, I think this is a function of the department heads and the separate office heads, and I don't believe that any individual who happens to be, let's say, from a filing clerk on up can by themselves decide what is right for them to tell and what is not right.

Q. Mr. Mollenhoff: Mr. President, they used the May 17, 1954, letter that you wrote to Secretary Wilson in the Army-McCarthy hearings as the precedent in this particular case. I wonder if you felt they were misusing it if they use it, say, a clerk or an assistant secretary?

THE PRESIDENT. Now, you give me a very long and involved and detailed question here at a place where I don't even remember what I wrote to Secretary Wilson at that time. I will have to look it up.

If you will put your question in to Mr. Hagerty so we can look it up, why, it will be answered.

Q. Russell Baker, New York Times: Mr. President, you say you are not going to do any more barnstorming. I wonder whether we might also look forward to your expanding this motorcading type of campaigning which you did in Iowa? Will there be more of that, in addition to more television?

THE PRESIDENT. If you can tell me how to get from one place to the other on the ground—[*laughter*—where I want to go without going through a motorcade, why, I would be much obliged, and I have done nothing except that.

Q. Francis M. Stephenson, New York Daily News: Mr. President, I wonder if you could give us your impressions of your two trips into the Middle West?

THE PRESIDENT. I would say this: both Mrs. Eisenhower and I have been not only proud, we have been practically overwhelmed by the warmth of the personal welcome we have encountered.

I have nothing else to say because I have had no reaction except, of course, what my friends have told me with whom I have been.

But as far as we are concerned, we are very, very happy that people seem to feel toward us like they show.

Q. Lloyd M. Schwartz, Fairchild Publications: There are reports you have just decided to sign, invoke the Geneva reservation to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade which would raise duties on imports of woolen fabrics. I wonder if you could tell us whether you have done that yet?

THE PRESIDENT. I have forgotten the last paper I signed. It is up, and I don't know that anything has been published, but the thing is up for action, and it should be out in a day or so, whatever the action was; if it isn't out, I don't think it is proper for me to say it now. There must be some reason for its not being out.

Q. Paul Scott Rankine, Reuters: Mr. President, Winston Churchill has referred to you on a number of occasions in his speeches and writings. I wonder if you could help us identify the three particular paragraphs which you referred to as a testimonial?

THE PRESIDENT. No, I think you will have to look it up.

Q. Chalmers M. Roberts, Washington Post and Times Herald: In discussing Suez a moment ago you said, I believe, that

your hope was of getting something similar to or representative of the first London Conference proposals. Does that mean, sir, that those proposals are negotiable as to the type of international control or as to international control itself?

THE PRESIDENT. What I meant was this: we have laid down certain things that represent principles as well as specific proposals and operation.

Now, I think details of operation can always be rearranged if we can stick to the principle that the user countries do have a very great stake in this internationalized waterway.

Q. Charles E. Shutt, Telenews: Mr. President, last evening former Secretary of State Dean Acheson indicated that your administration had handled our foreign affairs rather badly. He also used the phrase "This administration had been playing Russian roulette with an atomic pistol." Would you care to comment on that, sir?

THE PRESIDENT. Well—[*laughter*]—I would say this: regardless of who said it, if this campaign were going to be settled on the basis of misleading wisecracks, why, I would think the betting would be very considerably different than it would be if it is settled just on facts and on the record.

Q. Lawrence Fernsworth, Concord (New Hampshire) Monitor: Mr. President, in previous press conferences there have been questions raised about the advisability of appointing men to the Supreme Court who have had judicial experience, and you replied in the affirmative.

It was not clear from your answer to such a question at your last conference whether you felt appointments ought to be limited to judges of the Federal Bench. At that conference the question of the South's claim to an appointment was raised.

May I ask whether the New England claims are not likewise being taken into account? Previous to the last appointment, Senator Bridges sponsored the chief justice of the New Hampshire State Supreme Court, Frank B. Kenison. Is there a prob-

ability of Justice Kenison or some other New Englander being considered?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, when you come to the Supreme Court, my people look up the record of every sitting judge that they can find, district courts and circuit courts in the Federal and all of the Supreme Court Justices in the States.

We like to keep a good geographical distribution. But I would never think of making an appointment to the Supreme Court merely on the basis of geographical distribution. One part has just as much right as another, and if you get the man that meets the qualifications that you are looking for, stands out in the opinion of the American Bar Association and all the rest, well then, of course, he would get it; and I would hope that all of the areas could, in their own turns, have the proper representation in the Court.

Merriman Smith, United Press: Thank you, Mr. President.

NOTE: President Eisenhower's ninety-sixth news conference was held in the Executive Office Building from 10:33 to 11:02 o'clock on Thursday morning, September 27, 1956. In attendance: 210.

217 ¶ Statement by the President on Receiving Progress Report on the Rural Development Program. *September 28, 1956*

THE REPORT on the Rural Development Program initiated to aid small and low-income farmers shows major progress.

Every one of the main recommendations made in April 1955 by Secretary Benson has been acted upon. These include expanded technical aid for families on small farms, new job opportunities, training in non-agricultural skills, research, and community action in rural areas.

The federal government has had the cooperation of state

leaders in working toward each of these vital goals. Experience gained this year will encourage an expanded effort in 1957-58.

Among the points in this report which are worthy of special comment are these:

First, the program is being managed by state, county and local committees—not from Washington. This is as it should be.

Second, I am most encouraged by the active interest and leadership of various groups—farm, school, church, service clubs, business, industry and others. The development programs are those which the state and local participants want.

Third, there is major emphasis on youth—education, vocational training, health and character.

Fourth, the program is hitting at the points of greatest need. The 24 states and more than 50 pilot counties already in the program are located in areas where the most small farms and the most rural families with low incomes are located.

In my message to Congress of January 11, 1954, I pointed out that the chief beneficiaries of our price-support policies have been the 2 million larger, highly-mechanized farming units which produce about 85 percent of our agricultural output.

On the remaining farms, production is so limited that the farmer derives little benefit from price supports.

Initial success of this program is a challenge to all of us in this year ahead. We have a solid foundation to build upon. The Rural Development Program is the first truly broad-scale attack on the problems of low-income farmers. I am happy to see so many groups and agencies working together as a single team. That is the way to get results.

NOTE: The report was presented to the President at a meeting with the Interdepartmental Committee of Under Secretaries for the Rural Development Program, consisting of the Under Secretaries of Agriculture, Interior, Commerce, Labor,

and Health, Education, and Welfare, and a member of the Council of Economic Advisers.

The report is entitled "Progress in the Rural Development Program: First Annual Report of the Secretary of Agriculture," and was made avail-

able by the Department of Agriculture in a pamphlet dated September 1956.

Secretary Benson's April 1955 rec-

ommendations are printed in House Document 149 (84th Cong., 1st sess.).

218 ¶ Remarks at Meeting of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund.

September 28, 1956

Mr. Chairman and distinguished members of this great audience:

It is a very definite honor for this Nation's Capital to be the host to such a distinguished body. I assure you that we are complimented by your presence.

I suppose seated here before me is the greatest concentration of financial genius that this world could produce. That being so, you can be sure of one thing: I am not going to talk about international finances.

I think I would prefer to talk for a minute or two about some of the meanings—some of the results—of the kind of cooperation that you people are here to undertake.

International cooperation is the key to peace. It must come about. It must progress from year to year—or the world must be the poorer by reason of that failure.

We have the United Nations in order to spread understanding—one of the other—a place where we may debate our differences, rather than resort to the ancient arbiter of force—an organization to promote and sustain peace.

We have such defensive organizations as NATO and SEATO and the Organization of American States—all having as one of their main purposes the security of all of the member states against unwarranted attack.

In this International Bank and the International Monetary Fund, we have the possibility of extending this cooperative field

into our business life—the international business life. As mutual understanding and good will and above all, confidence in each other is the basis of any successful business within a nation, so it is in the international world.

As confidence grows, in turn based upon mutual understanding, and based upon meetings such as these, we are bound to have a general rise in the living standards of the world. Business thrives in the spirit of confidence thus engendered.

So, you pool long-term capital and provide technical advice and help for all of the organisms that are struggling to produce wealth so that all the people of the world may prosper. You do it together and therefore add to the strength of each, so that the whole total becomes one not only formidable—it is truly overwhelming in its influence.

I have only one other word to say. It has to do with an experience of mine in wartime, where I was working with groups that had among themselves to develop real cooperation or there could be no success. There are men in this audience who were my associates in that work. We early found one thing: without the heart, without the enthusiasm for the cause in which we were working, no cooperation was possible. With that enthusiasm, subordinating all else to the advancement of the cause, cooperation was easy.

Now it seems to me you people have shown your enthusiasm for doing your part in developing this growing and expanding world economy by coming here, by coming from so many different nations—giving your time and your effort to meet with others in order that the whole may prosper.

Because you do show that enthusiasm, that kind of leadership, I venture to offer to each of you my felicitations and my complete confidence that nothing you could be now doing in your own country or elsewhere is more worthwhile than what you are doing here in this great meeting you have been holding.

Again I say, Washington—this Nation's Capital—this entire government—the American people—are proud to have had you

here. We hope only that these meetings may be frequent and each one of them more fruitful than its predecessor.

Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at the Sheraton-Park Hotel, Washington, D. C., at 11:30 a. m. His opening words "Mr. Chairman" referred to Antonio Carrillo Flores, Secretary of Finance of Mexico.

219 ¶ Statement by the President on the Death of President Somoza of Nicaragua.

September 29, 1956

THE NATION and I personally regret the death of President Somoza of Nicaragua as a result of the dastardly attack made upon him several days ago by an assassin.

President Somoza constantly emphasized, both publicly and privately, his friendship for the United States—a friendship that persisted until the moment of his death.

220 ¶ Statement by the President Marking National Newspaper Week. *September 30, 1956*

To the Newspapers of the Nation:

Our Nation is based upon an informed and concerned citizenry. When our people know the facts, the decisions they make are for the good of the country.

The ten thousand newspapers of America, consequently, have a great responsibility. As one of the oldest and most important means of communication, our newspapers must present the facts honestly and in the proper perspective, as their editors continue to speak fearlessly on issues they consider to be of local and national importance.

When Americans know the truth, they are strong and free to act for the best interest of the Nation and the world. This is the challenge of National Newspaper Week.

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

221 ¶ Statement by the President Marking the
Opening of the United Community Campaigns.
September 30, 1956

[Recorded on film and tape]

My Fellow Citizens:

I would like to talk to you for a few minutes about the United Community Campaigns which are starting right now in cities and towns from coast to coast.

They will be known by different names—the United Fund, the United Crusade, the United Community Chest, and others. But whatever the name, the important word is that word *United*. For in every city it means that many good and useful voluntary health and welfare agencies have teamed up to ask you just once a year for funds, instead of going out on separate and competing campaigns.

You know these agencies will take care of children—heal the sick in body and mind—bring hope to the handicapped—minister to the aged—guide boys and girls away from delinquency into paths of fine American citizenship.

In many cities, great national causes, such as the Red Cross, the USO—Heart—Cancer—and Crippled Children, are included in these local drives. This kind of unity makes a great deal of sense, for man is a united human being. He is built all in one piece—a body, a mind, and a spirit. And you can't separate the elements and still have a whole human being.

With skill and compassion these agencies unite to serve all the

needs of all the people. The word *Community* lies at the very heart of our American society. There is no such thing as a strong, healthy nation without strong healthy communities. And the community is strong and healthy only when its citizens care enough and share enough to make it that way.

In a political campaign, people in the community divide up into sides and they cast their votes on issues. But in the United Community Campaigns there is only one big issue, and that is: Are we interested in our fellow man?

For us Americans, whatever our politics, racial background or religious faith, there is only one answer, and it is an answer that expresses a genuine and heartfelt concern for our fellow man.

So I am sure that when the volunteer worker knocks at your door and heart, and asks you to sign a pledge for the United Community Campaigns, you will join me with a three word answer: "Yes I will."

222 ¶ Message to the National Education Association on the Mission of Education in America and the Role of the Federal Government.

October 1, 1956

To the National Education Association:

In America, the basic mission of education is clear and compelling: to provide every person—regardless of race, economic status or locality—the opportunity to develop to the highest capacity of his or her own self, and for the common good. In seeking to achieve this purpose, public education—and private education, as well—serves to strengthen our system of self-government and our freedom as a people.

As the means by which all Americans promote the welfare of their national community, the Federal Government's role in edu-

cation is also clear and compelling. It is to facilitate and encourage—but never to control—the process of education.

Education can only flourish and make its fullest contribution if the process of education is free—free to seek truth and to teach truth, unfettered by political restraint.

To nurture our freedom in education, the American people placed control of their public school system in the States and local communities. Through State and local control, we have the benefits of a widespread responsibility and a rich diversity of ingenuity and initiative, without the stultifying risk of a centralized Federal school system.

On the other hand, the Federal Government is active in the field of education by providing broad national leadership and assistance, using methods that encourage State and local effort. While this broad role has been uppermost, the Federal Government has also met many specific needs with concrete action.

For a century, the Federal Government has given financial support to colleges which provide agricultural and mechanical training. For eighty-nine years the Federal Government has been the chief source of nationwide information on education. For forty years, the Federal Government has given financial support to the development of vocational education. For six years, the Federal Government has provided funds to build and operate schools in areas where the concentration of Federal defense activities has caused a special need.

These were specific actions taken by the Federal Government to meet changing conditions and needs on a national scale. The present Republican Administration, too, has acted to meet today's problems in education which involve the Nation as a whole.

Through our White House Conference on Education we have stimulated a new public interest in elementary and secondary schools. During our Administration a major expansion has been launched in fact-finding, advisory, and other services of the United States Office of Education. For the first time in history, a program of financial grants to universities, colleges and State

departments of education has been established to encourage research into hard-core problems of education. This Administration has sought—and will continue to seek—legislation to help communities with inadequate resources to build the classrooms our children need in every part of the country. And a committee of distinguished laymen and educators has been appointed to study and make recommendations on the growing problems of education beyond the high school.

There is one final indispensable key to continued progress. Our American educational system can never be any better than the men and women who instruct our children. We have better teachers today than ever before, but we need more of them than ever before. And if we are to continue to have the finest teaching staff in the world, our teachers must be compensated adequately—in salary, in community support and in honor for the sacred trust they bear: the education of future Americans.

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

NOTE: This message was prepared issue of the NEA Journal (vol. 45, p. 410).
for publication in the October 1956

223 ¶ Remarks to the Sales Executives Club and the Chamber of Commerce, Cleveland, Ohio. *October 1, 1956*

All of the people seated at the head table, and all the rest of the guests, and my Fellow Americans:

You can well guess that my first statement must be: I am delighted to be here.

I come to a meeting that I really didn't know I was scheduled, but when I can see this many Americans exhibiting this kind of enthusiasm, I get a lift that can well start me off on something that I would have to get some help to stop.

I do assure you, for the cordiality of your welcome, I am truly grateful. As you know, I am going to make an address very soon out here on the Square. I am not certain how much time I have, but I do say this:

There is no ambition any American has that is greater than the hope that he might serve America usefully, particularly when he sees a cross-section of America represented in such fine style as this, here at this meeting. If I have in my whole lifetime done anything at all to repay what America has done for me, for my family, I shall never to the end of my days have one single regret for anything.

Thank you very much for asking me in. It has been a great privilege, I assure you.

NOTE: The President spoke at the Cleveland Hotel at 11:55 a. m.

224 ¶ Address at a Rally in the Public Square, Cleveland, Ohio. *October 1, 1956*

Mr. Chairman, Secretary Humphrey, Senator Bricker, Senator Bender, members of the Ohio Republican contingent in the Congress, Republican candidates for State office—let me pause here long enough to say I wish for each of them overwhelming success where they are standing for election this fall—and My Fellow Citizens in this great throng and over the Nation:

Almost two years have passed since I last visited Cleveland, but I find that even a few hours in this city provide a tremendous tonic for me, as an American. From my heart, I thank you for the warmth of your welcome.

This time I am here in the midst of a political campaign—a political campaign to determine what kind of government this country is going to have for the next four years.

Now let there be no mistake. There are deep and essential differences in the beliefs and convictions of the two major parties

as established by the words of their candidates and by their records in office.

Speaking simply and directly to the problem: one of the most vital of these differences is that a dominant element in the other party believes primarily in big government and paternalistic direction by Washington bureaucrats of important activities of the entire nation. Those people have in the past sponsored the Brannan plan and price controls in time of peace. They have flirted with socialized medicine. In general, they preach continuous extension of political control over our economy.

On the other hand, we of this Administration and this Party believe that the great American potential can be realized only through the unfettered and free initiative, talents and energies of our entire people.

We believe that the government has the function of insuring the national security and domestic tranquillity, and beyond this, has to perform, in Lincoln's phrase—all those things which individuals cannot well do for themselves.

We believe that government must be alert—and this Administration has been alert—to every need of our people, especially in those things affecting their health and education and their human rights. A sound nation is built of individuals sound in body and mind and spirit. Government dares not ignore the individual citizen.

But we emphatically reject every unnecessary invasion into the daily lives of our people and into their occupations, both industrial and on the farm.

Let no one tell you that this difference is either merely doctrinal or fanciful. It is practical. It is real. It affects your lives, the life of the nation today and the life of the nation tomorrow.

Now naturally, the busy orators of the opposition deplore—and even attempt to deny—this faith of ours, in you, the people.

Daily I read about politicians—some of them candidates for high office—who go about the country expressing at length their worries about America and the American people. They profess

to be alarmed, scared, and convinced that in all ways we are slipping badly. They cry that the country is going to pot and only they—prescribing for our ills from the seat of government in Washington—can save it.

Now I have a simple prescription for their worries and fears. It is this:

Let them forget themselves for awhile, and their partisan speeches. When they visit a city like Cleveland, let them look around at the hustle and bustle; talk to, and especially listen to, the people here. Let these politicians absorb some of the spirit that animates Clevelanders, all of them—whether they work in banks, in factories, in orchards and fields or in kitchens. Their worries and fears of the future of America should begin to sound foolish—even to them.

Now, my friends, despite this good advice, I am sure these men of fretting fear and worried doubt will reject my prescription instantly. They want too much to have you believe in the story of gloom they spread. For, you see, they assert that these fancied ills can be cured only if the government in Washington—with they themselves occupying its important posts—runs the entire country, including Cleveland.

Now, for a few years in the past, they, and men like them, almost succeeded in selling us this philosophy. But, now the shoe is on the other foot and they are extremely unhappy about it.

For Cleveland, and the rural areas in Ohio, and the citizens of all the other 47 States, are not only running their own jobs efficiently, but are doing their part to run Washington. The result is a better America, an America of increasing peace, security and progress.

Together, we Americans have moved a long way forward in the last four years.

For, you see, Cleveland is not an island of prosperity in an ocean of stagnation. All America has advanced in the past four years.

Now that advance didn't happen just by accident. Your Government in Washington has adopted policies that have created a tremendous confidence in America's future.

And with that confidence, you people of Cleveland, your neighbors in Detroit and Toledo—yes, all the people of the United States—you have done the rest.

You here in this Square, the tens of millions like you all over the country, are the source of this tremendous advance—not a group of bureaucrats in Washington or a group of politicians bemoaning the fix the country is in. And how did you do this? You accomplished this by hard work; by investing your money; by sticking to your job and doing a good job. You did it because you had faith in yourselves, in your community, in your country. You did it by using your Government as a servant, not turning to it as a kindly master who could parcel out to you—in its great wisdom—the measure of prosperity it believes you merit.

Now the results have been wonderful.

The cost of living has been remarkably stabilized—only about 2½ percent increase in 3½ years. During the final six years of the previous Administration the cost of living increase was 20 times as great as that.

Today, we have a stable dollar. One man who has powerfully helped to restore its honesty and dependability is your own fellow citizen, your great Secretary of the Treasury, George Humphrey.

You have a right—a definite right—to be proud of him. With the late Senator Taft, he has added stature to the Republican Party in this generation.

Now, my friends, we have balanced the Federal Budget, and have even made some payment on our huge national debt.

We have record high employment—66.8 million jobs in August—and without war.

Just before I left Washington, one of the technicians gave me the latest figures on unemployment in the month of September, and it looks like it's down below three percent—almost a record in our entire history.

Working people have higher wages than ever—for the average factory worker, 12 percent more than when the prior Administration left office—and this worker has greatly increased his purchasing power.

Production of goods and services is at a rate exceeding 400 billion dollars a year.

In the first three years of this Administration there were more single-family homes built in America than in any prior three-year period.

A nation-wide highway construction program is now under way.

Those are the facts—that is where America is today. Now while Americans were accomplishing this—were making these tremendous advances—what has your Government been doing?

In virtually every area of human concern, it is moving forward.

Government has had a heart as well as a head.

Now, my friends, in telling you about some of the things this Administration has been doing, I hope you will not take it that I am boasting. There will never be room for boasting in this regard until there is not a single needy person left in the United States, when distress and disease have been eliminated. I am talking about progress—how far we have gone ahead.

Now here are some things the opposition would like you to forget:

Social Security has been extended to an additional 10 million Americans—unemployment compensation to an additional 4 million Americans.

Our health program has been greatly improved—research into the causes of crippling and killing diseases has been markedly stepped up.

The minimum wage has been increased, even though my recommendation for its wider coverage was not acted on in the Congress.

We have had a 7.4 billion dollar tax cut—the largest in our

Nation's history. And despite opposition charges, two thirds of that cut was given to individuals.

Sympathetic understanding has been fostered and intelligent progress has been made in civil rights. Segregation has been ended in restaurants, theatres, hotels, and schools in the District of Columbia—ended in Government departments, the Armed Forces, veterans' hospitals.

And we have been vigilant and successful in preserving the nation's security—and peace.

Now let me say, this peace is not all that we could wish, and not all that—with God's help—it will one day be. Centuries of mutual hatreds and prejudices and quarrels cannot disappear in a few short years.

But why this anguished cry of some politicians that we have no peace?

Do they think they can make America's parents and wives believe that their sons and husbands are being shot at?

Do they think they can bring Americans to believe that our nation's powerful voice is not daily urging conciliation, mutual understanding and justice?

That is exactly what we are doing in the Suez problem.

Do they believe that Americans do not know how strong have been our efforts to dedicate the atom to constructive instead of destructive purposes?

Are they so deluded as to believe they can conceal from all our people the steady policies directed toward removing the causes of war?

Let them think of these names: Korea, Trieste, Austria, Guatemala, West Germany. If they so think of them, they will realize that they would be very wise to stop this effort of fooling all the people all the time.

Not only is this Administration dedicated to peace, but we have established a record in behalf of peace that all the world respects.

Now these are just some of the things this Administration has been doing.

Let us look for a moment at a simple question: Which Party, in these recent years, has done more to help all citizens meet the problems of their daily lives? Which Party has helped more—not with words, with deeds?

As an early demonstration of its concern for the human problems of health, education and welfare, the Administration raised that agency to Cabinet level. Now national health, the proper education of our children, and the human welfare of all Americans are discussed at the same table—and with the same exhaustive care—as such great subjects as foreign affairs and national security.

The men of the opposition know perfectly well that one of the main reasons they were thrown out of office four years ago was their tolerance of the thievery of inflation. Just in the final seven years of their tenure of office this economic fever had cut the value of the dollar by almost one-third, damaging the livelihood of the aged—the pensioned—all salaried workers. The opposition did nothing effectively to stop this economic thievery. And they know it.

Take the St. Lawrence Seaway. For twenty years the opposition talked about the Seaway. Yet it was repeatedly shelved, by-passed, and blocked. This Administration acted and got the Seaway going. As a result, two years from now, great ocean ships will dock here in Cleveland.

All the money the Federal government could spend for this purpose won't hold a candle to the increased prosperity the Seaway will bring to the Great Lakes—to the Middle West. This Administration made it a reality. And they—the opposition—know it.

Take agriculture. They—the opposition—had 20 long years to do something for the most needy families on our farms. At the end of those 20 years, they had done nothing—except to by-pass the small farmer as they made corporation and big area

farming more profitable than ever before. And the Administration's new rural development program is the first—I repeat the first—full-scale and integrated Federal effort to help these lowest-income families. Another Administration program enables the small farmer—often a young veteran—to get full and comprehensive credit in financing his farm and buildings and equipment and seed. And he can refinance his existing debts in the same way as any other business or industry. That's another "first" for this Administration. And the opposition knows it.

Now, let's take small business. Just 18 years ago small business people from all over America gathered in Washington at the request of the Administration then in power. They made 23 recommendations—appeals—for action. Yet for the next 14 years—for all the years when the opposition held power—virtually nothing was done. This Administration is the first Administration that has made a major attack upon the problems of small business. And they—the opposition—know it.

Take labor. The opposition say that they alone truly care for the working men and women of America and that the Republican Party is really a vague kind of political conspiracy by big business to destroy organized labor and to bring hunger and torment to every worker in America.

This is more than political bunk. It is willful nonsense. It is wicked nonsense.

Let's see what the record shows about this:

The record shows: Organized labor is larger in numbers and greater in strength today—after these years of Republican Administration—than ever in our Nation's history.

The record shows: Not under the opposition's leadership, but under the leadership of this Administration, the workers of America have received the greatest rise in real wages—the kind of wages that buys groceries and cars and homes—the greatest rise in 30 years.

The record shows: We—not they—have made the most successful fight to stop inflation's robbery of every paycheck.

The record shows that this check upon inflation is most vital—not for the few who are rich—but for the millions who depend upon salaries or pensions, those who are old, those who are sick, those who are needy.

The record shows: We—not they—have brought a reduction in the cost of Federal Government and a reduction in taxes—a reduction benefiting, not a favored few, but every taxpayer in the land. In fact, 11 out of 12 increases that have been made in the individual income tax since it started were made under our opponents, while 5 out of 7 reductions were made under Republican Administrations.

And now I want to add this simple fact. We have given to our Nation the kind of government that is a living witness to the basic virtues in a democracy—public morality, public service, and public trust. In this Administration you cannot find those ugly marks of the past: Special favoritism, cronyism, and laxity in administration.

You have here in Ohio a vigorous exponent of the Administration's program—George Bender.

Two years ago I came here to add my voice to his campaign for the United States Senate. He ran on one basic platform pledge—to support the President and his Administration in Washington. In this he has a splendid record.

He has done an effective job for this State and for all the States of the Union. He has served with vigor and forthrightness. He has shown us a great dedication.

And this Administration is dedicated to the welfare—the peace and the prosperity—of 168 million American citizens. This dedication is equal for all. It is equal for all regardless of race or color or creed—regardless of region or section or of occupation—and regardless of social or economic fortune.

This is the kind of government that we have been developing for the past four years.

Now the Republican Party does not base its appeal on section-

alism, on playing worker against manager, housewife against storekeeper, farmer against manufacturer.

The Republican Party believes that none of us can truly prosper unless all of us prosper. It believes we cannot be secure unless we are strong; that no nation can enjoy true peace unless all nations are free from war.

If the Republican Party were not this sort of Party, I would not belong to it. I would not belong to it and I would not be running as its candidate. What benefits America benefits farmers and industrial workers, the school children and the aged, the West and North and South—all of us. We are one people, one Nation.

And finally, let me say this to you. One of my chief objectives and my greatest hope prior to taking office was to restore the respect of the American people for the Government of the United States. I think you agree with me that honor and integrity have been the landmarks of all that we have done during the last four years. But much remains to be done in the cause of good government for the future of America.

I sincerely and devotedly want to continue the job. To be successful two things are necessary: time; and your help.

With your help between now and November, we can gain the time for the next four years in which we can permanently establish an understanding of these truths—in Washington and throughout the country. There will be restored the faith and belief of the American people in our national processes.

The confidence of the American people in our institutions and our leaders must be strong and secure, if we are to lead the peoples and the nations toward the lasting and just peace, which we all so devoutly seek.

Friends, again I thank you for your welcome and for your courtesy in listening to me so attentively. Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 12:10 p. m. His opening words "Mr. Chairman of the Ohio Republican State Central and Executive Committee" referred to Ray C. Bliss,

225 ¶ Remarks Upon Arrival in Lexington,
Kentucky. *October 1, 1956*

THANK YOU very much. All of us have heard of Kentucky hospitality. I can't tell you how deeply touched Mrs. Eisenhower and I are by your kindness in coming out to greet us here in Lexington. We were particularly touched by the fact that your Governor himself took the trouble to come out to the airport and greeted us as we got off the plane.

But to all of you our thanks go out for the cordiality of your welcome.

I should say one word before I leave here. At the bottom of the steps I met three youngsters who had on ribbons called "First Voters."

I can't tell you how happy I am that there is another State that has joined the ranks of those that said, "If you're old enough to fight you're old enough to vote."

Thank you very much and goodbye.

NOTE: The President spoke at the airport at 3:15 p. m.

226 ¶ Address at the University of Kentucky
Coliseum in Lexington. *October 1, 1956*

Mr. Chairman and my Fellow Americans:

Mrs. Eisenhower and I have been deeply touched today by the evidence we have on every hand of Kentucky's famed hospitality.

Our gratitude went first to those thousands who came to the airport, and we were especially touched that your Governor should have found fit to come out and led his people to meet us there.

Along the roads leading into town, along the city streets to the hotel, in the corridors and in the lobby of the hotel—everywhere—we have had only expressions of warm cordiality which

have touched my wife, my party and me. I do thank you sincerely.

And may I also say a word about another point that is especially pleasing to me about Kentucky today. There are among you here a certain group who by the wisdom and good sense of the Kentucky Legislature are going to vote one Presidential election before they otherwise could have done so.

I know that those young people will show their appreciation of that priceless privilege coming to them this early, by voting in every single election for whatever office may be at stake, and continuing to vote as long as you have the strength to get to the polls.

Now, my friends, four years ago you gave me a job to do.

The job was to establish for America a new direction.

You—the American people—wanted to turn away from policies of the past that had meant only trouble or torment for our Nation—a drifting war, and racing inflation—bigger federal spending and heavier federal taxation. You were tired of needless governmental controls and recklessly unbalanced budgets—the building up of political power, and the tearing down of political morality, in Washington. And you were thoroughly sick of the perpetual atmosphere of uncertainty, anxiety and crisis.

And so the job was clear. It was to set America firmly on the new road—toward secure peace based on justice—and toward lasting prosperity, widely shared. This is the road of freedom in the life of the individual—and integrity in the life of the government.

This is the road of harmony and balance and progress among all the constructive forces of our land—Federal, State and local government, private enterprise, labor—and, above all, the millions of self-reliant Americans.

We have come a long way in this new direction.

Today there is a lot of work still to be done—which is not surprising. What is surprising, however, is that there still seem to be some who would like to go back to the old road—the zig-

zag directionless road of trial and error, the road that was not really a road at all, but an endless series of detours around crises—leading nowhere.

Now, my friends, I must frankly admit one thing. I cannot find the choice—the choice between going forwards or going backwards—a very hard one to make. I have never found it so in all my experience—in whatever part of the world I have tried to serve my country, in whatever office I have held. But it does seem that a lot of politicians—especially at this time of year—regard it as their main business to make simple choices seem extremely hard.

Now I wish tonight to answer three basic questions:

What is the job to be done?

How much of that job has already been done?

How do we get the rest done?

So we begin, really, with this question: What do we want this country to be like as the next four years unfold?

Let me give you some highlights of the picture that I keep constantly before me.

I see an America in which every man can eat his own bread in peace, raise his own family in security, and strengthen his own spirit and mind in dignity.

This will be an America where there are more than 70 million jobs at good wages.

An America where the schoolroom shortage is erased—where ever child can go to a good school, and every young talent can be developed to the full.

An America in which farm surpluses no longer crush down farm prices—and the farmer.

And this—incidentally—means an America where no politician any longer can treat the farmer himself as a product to be bid for in the political market place.

I see an America where intensive medical research has conquered some of our most killing and crippling diseases.

An America where every family can afford and find a decent home.

An America where a mighty network of highways spreads across our country—and where ocean ships sail into the ports of the Great Lakes, bringing a fresh surge of progress and growth.

An America where long and costly strikes will be rare—where older workers will be hired entirely on the basis of ability—and where local unemployment problems will be attacked by special programs of financial and technical aid.

An America where we shall see the benefits of our recent action to conserve our soil and water resources—while abundant new supplies of power will be unleashed for our surging industrial growth.

An America where the greatest possible government efficiency allows the lowest possible government costs—and, hence, lower taxes.

And this—incidentally—will mean an America whose government is not run by politicians who think that the way to lower taxes is to increase expenditures. Our way—to reduce expenditures—is very old-fashioned. But it has one important advantage—it works.

An America where special laws will have improved and protected the competitive position of small business—so vital to our free economy.

And an America where our troubled period of adjustment to the practical meaning of equal opportunity, without regard to race, will have largely given way to a new spirit of understanding and harmony.

All of this means, finally, an America fully armed—materially and spiritually—to lead the free nations of the world. For our prosperity and our strength are necessary to serve not only our own comfort and security—but the hopes and needs of free men everywhere.

Now we come to our second key question: how much of this job already has been done?

Now I shall be blunt and very truthful: I am proud of the record to date.

And permit me, please, to explain why I speak of such pride. It is not to make a political boast—or to ask praise for the performance of duty.

I speak of it because our past performance is the evidence that we can and will do the job that remains to be done.

There is one simple proof of this point.

Most of the items I have just listed in our hopes and plans for the years just ahead are already backed up by specific laws enacted, or bills in Congress—based on my last three Messages on the State of the Union.

This, then, is not a set of glittering phrases coined in the frenzied weeks of a political campaign. This is a working plan of action.

Let us look at a few examples.

Before all else—in our hearts and in our deeds—comes our quest of peace. In Korea, long since, the guns have been stilled—and in America, the casualty lists have ended. The road to secure world peace, obviously, merely began with the Korean armistice. But it did begin. And there have been no more Koreas—anywhere in the world.

What about our progress at home?

As to jobs: I have just received the figures for the month of September just since I have arrived in your city. There were more people employed throughout our country than in any other September in our history. The figure is 66 million, 100 thousand.

There were 700 thousand more people employed in August, and I suppose the opposition will try to make something of this point, but the fact is that those 700 thousand were almost entirely made up of young people who gave up their temporary summer employment to return to school.

What is even more encouraging, unemployment for September

dropped to a rate lower than in any peacetime September during the twenty-year rule of the opposition party.

So, there's the record! More employment in any September in our history, and less unemployment than any peacetime September during the entire twenty-year rule of the opposition.

Now as to wages: I realize that averages do not mean too much to any one individual. But the fact is that the worker in our factories today is making an average of \$12 a week more than he did in August 1952. Most of this is clear gain—because taxes have been reduced, while the cost of living has increased less than 3 percent.

As to farm prices: Except for the Korean war years, this will be the first year since 1947 when farm prices have gone up.

As to homes: More homes have been built in the last three years than in any previous three-year period.

As to transportation: The huge, new interstate highway network is already under construction. And so is the St. Lawrence Seaway—after about 30 years of talk and delay.

As to older workers: We have been carrying on a new Federal-state project to help older workers get jobs. We have launched a whole new array of special housing, health, and other programs for retired or aging persons.

As to small business: We created the Small Business Administration. And we have substantially increased the share of defense contracts going to small business.

As to government efficiency: Our Federal civilian payroll in June 1956 was 167,300 less than at the end of the preceding Administration. We have cut taxes by \$7.4 billion, with about two-thirds of the cut going directly to individuals.

And, we have balanced the budget.

A great cooperative effort was launched to improve earning opportunities in low-income rural areas. A special campaign is in force to improve the working conditions and regularity of income of migrant farm laborers. The rate of rehabilitating handicapped workers—and finding useful employment for them—has

reached an all-time high. And assistance to the aged—in such forms as increased medical aid—has been improved beyond any programs known in the past.

Now, as to social security: We made coverage virtually complete by bringing in 10 million more people—and we put through the biggest real increase in benefits in the program's history.

As to civil rights: Genuine progress has been made in eliminating racial segregation and inequality of opportunity—in all areas of direct federal responsibility. This has applied to the District of Columbia—government departments—the armed forces—and government contracts with private industry.

These are a few of the actions taken that clearly mark our new direction.

They also give a background of clear fact to enable us to judge some of the political oratory heard these days. This oratory, at its most reckless, has plunged to the wild extremes of charging this Administration with such fabulous failings as not guarding the peace—and not caring for the welfare of any humble citizen or any needy family in our land.

We should not, perhaps, be too much surprised at such talk.

We all know that there are people who suffer from living in a world of words and phrases for so long that they can no longer recognize action when they see it.

And—when it comes to a really critical matter like political leadership—we recall a fact that all of us have seen in our daily lives: the longest lectures almost always come from those with the least experience.

Our third and final question is: How do we get on with the rest of the job?

The first thing to do is clear. It is for the people to elect a Republican Administration and to send to Washington men like John Sherman Cooper and Thruston Morton. Here are two men who have proved themselves not merely by what they have said, but by what they have done. Here are two men who deeply

believe in the principles and ideals of the new direction of our Nation.

We need again John Robsion and Eugene Siler in the House of Representatives, and I hope you will send there also Mr. All-American "Wa-Wa" Jones, and along with him Scott Craft, Jule Appel, R. B. Blankenship and Basil Preston.

With the help of such men, we can then begin by going to work on some unfinished business in our program which has been blocked by the opposition in Congress.

One or two examples.

Most urgent of all is the problem of our schools.

Here let us get a few simple facts straight.

Our serious schoolroom shortage has actually been somewhat reduced in these last years—with the building of more classrooms in these four years than in the preceding twelve. This local and state action, however, has not been enough. I therefore called upon the last Congress to enact a two billion dollar program of Federal grants and other aids for school construction over a five-year period.

I insisted that Federal aid be distributed to States on the basis of need. Moreover, I insisted that this aid be over and above what the States are now doing—and that the States themselves match the Federal funds. These requirements are essential if we are realistically to take up the critical lag already existing—rather than merely to keep step with new and growing needs.

As for the opposition: not one of its proposals met these simple, vital requirements. Now—within the last week—we see the strange spectacle of an apparently confused candidate of the opposition supporting the principles of the bills that we proposed—and that his party defeated.

There was only one clear vote, my friends, on my call for action. In the House, the opposition voted against it by 215 to 9—while three-fourths of the Republicans voted for it. In the Senate, the opposition never allowed it to get to a vote.

As a result, we have now lost one out of five precious years. To meet this, I see only one answer—to stick to our determination to get the schools we need—on schedule.

I shall accordingly call upon the next session of Congress to enact legislation that will do the job—not in five years—but in four.

There is other unfinished business to which I shall return.

I shall call—again—for financial and technical aid to areas suffering chronic local unemployment.

I shall call—again—for extension of the federal minimum wage law to great numbers of working men and women who today do not have its protection.

I shall—again—call for grants to states to expand and strengthen their programs for occupational safety. I called for this action by the last session of Congress. And the opposition Congress refused even to hold a hearing.

And I shall call for further help to small business with some dozen specific recommendations for action.

These are just a few examples of the specific tasks ahead.

But most important of all—in getting on with the job—is our understanding of one general principle: the need always to encourage the full and free energies of labor and industry, of private organizations and individual citizens. These are the energies that make America prosper and grow.

My friends, to turn back now to the unsound, inflationary, anti-business, heavy-tax, heavy-spending, government-interference, centralized-control policies—from which this country has so recently been rescued—could reverse all the progress we have made. Surely this is a risk that it would be foolish to run.

Let me, at the same time, make one thing absolutely clear: where the job before us, or any part of it, is one that only the Federal Government can do effectively—this government must and will act promptly.

When I spoke to you from San Francisco, I said there was within our reach a new world of good life, good will, and good

hope. We have made real progress toward such a world. For we have found—and are following—the new direction of our Nation.

We still have a distance to go. It can be an exciting journey, a satisfying journey, a confident journey—for we know where we are going. And we know how to get there.

Four years ago, my friends, we set out to do a job together.

When I think of the America that we would like to see by 1960, I say: let us get on with the rest of the job.

Thank you very much.

[*After an ovation the President added—*]

May I say just one word, my friends. I want to leave with all of you my special word of thanks to Dr. Peterson and the officers, trustees and faculty, and the student body of the University, for making this magnificent hall available to us at this meeting tonight.

Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 8:30 p. m. His opening words “Mr. Daniel, Chairman, Kentucky State Republican Central Committee. Chairman” referred to Dewey

227 ¶ Letter to Henry Cabot Lodge, Jr., the President’s Personal Representative at the Pulaski Day Parade in New York. *October 3, 1956*

[Released October 3, 1956. Dated September 19, 1956]

Dear Cabot:

I understand that you have agreed to act as my personal representative at the Pulaski Day Parade to be held in New York on October seventh. I am sure you agree with me that it is an honor for all Americans to join in observation of the anniversary of the death of the distinguished Pole who laid down his life in

the cause of our liberty some one hundred and seventy-seven years ago. His contribution to our freedom will never be forgotten.

Thank you for acting for me on this important occasion.

With warm regard,

Sincerely,

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

228 ¶ Remarks on the Three Missions of the Members of the Armed Forces. *October 3, 1956*

[Recorded on film and tape and broadcast over the Armed Forces radio and television stations]

TO SPEAK to you men and women of the Armed Forces has always been, for me, a prize privilege. Naturally, on this occasion, I wish I could talk to you face to face—as I have many times in the past—for I want to talk to you about yourselves and three missions in which each of you is engaged.

The manner in which you discharge them affects directly the national security, the world leadership, the whole future of our country. In that light, you are the most important audience to whom I can address myself.

Your present mission is the security of the United States and the safe, prosperous existence for the free world partnership in which the United States is a principal member. Each one of you helps make the vast force whose evident might and alert readiness constitute the best insurance that this nation in these uneasy times can contrive for its security and its peace.

As soldiers, sailors, airmen and marines, you wear the uniform of your Service proudly. You have every right to be proud. To your care is committed the guardianship of the Republic against the assaults of war.

But you have, too, a second mission, in no wise connected with arms and battle. Each of you is an Ambassador. Stationed at

home, each of you can be a builder of a stouter national unity. Abroad, each of you can be a builder of goodwill and friendship among the Free World partners.

In this country, for instance, your duty station may be a community hundreds of miles distant from your home community, in a multitude of ways different from the ways in which you were raised. Those differences contribute vigor and variety to American life. At the same time, however, they can be the meat on which sectionalism and all its prejudices—even bigotry—fatten.

You can prevent that by your own day-to-day adjustment to changes from the accustomed, suppressing any prejudice against what may seem novel or strange, conducting yourselves so as to win respect and understanding for your home area and its ways.

Those of you who are stationed overseas certainly can be the most effective Ambassadors we might send to the peoples of our partner nations. No country in all history was so well represented as the United States was by your comrades of World War Two and of the Korean War. Sturdy in battle, they were nevertheless messengers of help and encouragement, often of inspiration, always of friendliness to the needy and distressed and the ailing behind the lines. The spirit of those men is strong in you, too. Express that spirit in words and in deeds to the peoples among whom you live, and you will be worthy representatives of this great Republic.

But your third mission is the most important of all three. It underlies and gives meaning to the other two. This is your mission as American citizens.

Your citizenship is many things—a heritage of great traditions and mighty achievements; a future that is bright with promise, of ever-increasing reward for human effort.

Your citizenship is responsibility, too. A responsibility to preserve unspoiled the sound and good and noble in your heritage. A responsibility to use the rights and opportunities for your own betterment and your families and your communities. A responsi-

bility never to be content with what is now satisfactory, always to work for something better.

You cannot adequately discharge your responsibilities unless you are concerned about the sort of government we have, at every level of government—and do something about it.

You do that job by studying the issues and candidates, and talking them over with your comrades now, and your neighbors when you get home—by voting and getting others to vote in this election, and in every election of your lives.

Do not look on your vote merely as evidence of your loyalty to a political party, or of your enthusiasm for one of several candidates. Your vote is far more than that.

It is your decision on how your influence is to be felt in the government of your country, community or nation. That decision, made in honesty and integrity, is the fundamental expression of your American citizenship.

I know you will not shirk it, that you will vote if you possibly can for the party and for the candidates of your deliberate choice.

229 ¶ The President's News Conference of *October 5, 1956.*

THE PRESIDENT. Please sit down.

Good morning. I have no announcements. We will go right to questions.

Q. Douglass B. Cornell, Associated Press: Mr. President, Adlai Stevenson said in a civil rights speech in Harlem that you were trying to run on the Democratic record, that the Democrats started desegregation of the Armed Forces, and that the Republicans have made a brazen attempt to take credit for civil rights progress. Would you care to comment, sir?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, there have been since January 1953 a whole series of efforts directed toward assuring, in every area to which clear Federal authority extends, equality of opportu-

nity for all people. This is applied to the Armed Forces, to Government contracts, to the District of Columbia, to all sorts of things.

For example, long before the Supreme Court decision was handed down, the Defense Department and HEW had moved to eliminate segregation in schools on Army posts. Sometimes we had obstacles, but it was done—all kinds of things.

Now, it is perfectly true the problem of segregation in the service has been discussed, to my certain knowledge, for 45 years, because I was in the Army that long.

When I joined the Army there were two infantry regiments that were Negro, and two cavalry regiments. Through the years we gradually got down into smaller units; that is, they were not segregated so completely, these larger units.

So far as I know, I was the first combat commander that ever used Negroes incorporated actually into white units on the battlefield. I did this in the winter of '44-45. Twenty-four hundred Negroes out of my command volunteered for front line service. They had been in service units.

I organized them into squads, and some of them had Negro squad leaders, some white squad leaders. But they all got along together. They lived together in the same camping grounds, ate at the same messes. And General Patton, who, at first, was very much against this, became the most rabid supporter of the idea, he said, this way. Some of these white units, by the way, were southern units; this was the thing that convinced me that the thing could be done.

But, of course, the Army and all the other services, in general, were somewhat against it because they thought they would get into trouble; and, of course, you do have some trouble in your social events on a Post. You have dances for a company. Well, when you begin to mix in that social order, and you have both Negroes and whites, at first there was some trouble. Gradually, it was ironed out, and the progress went ahead.

When we came in, in '53, it looked to us like it was time to take the bull by the horns, and eliminate it all; and that is what we have done.

Q. Charles S. von Fremd, CBS News: Mr. President, two questions related to the Suez situation: First, does this country still feel as it did along with Britain and France 2½ months ago that nothing less than complete internationalization of the canal will satisfy Western demands? And, second, sir, why did we not refer the Suez crisis to the United Nations right after Nasser seized the canal?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, with respect to these questions, I must say that the Secretary of State is in New York today discussing this matter with the British and French foreign ministers, and it is to be debated in front of the United Nations. I think that I would prefer not to talk about the matter, particularly today, because I don't want by any word to embarrass anyone there, or throw anyone off balance as we proceed with the negotiations.

Actually, from the beginning we have insisted that a peaceful negotiation of this thing was possible; we are still of that belief, and we are still working for that end.

Q. William McGaffin, Chicago Daily News: Mr. President, television poses some technical problems for the people who appear on it. For instance, I believe Mr. Nixon has to wear make-up to cover up his very heavy beard.

Some of our readers have written in to us since you appeared, sir, to say that they felt that you didn't come off too well in the gray tones of the black and white television. We, who have seen you in person here, have commented that you look far younger and healthier in person here than on television.

THE PRESIDENT. Thank you. [*Laughter*]

Q. Mr. McGaffin: Sir, I was wondering if you have considered that the answer might be to, perhaps, use a little makeup or—[*laughter*—]sir, to show yourself to a greater extent to the people around the country in person so that they can see, as we do, that you really are healthy and young looking.

THE PRESIDENT. Well—persuasive type of argument.
[*Laughter*]

It has been talked to me about using makeup, but actually what happens, you come in off a motorcade, which is, as far as I am concerned—I don't see how to escape it—and I don't know that I would because anyone who wants to stand alongside the street, any American, for half an hour waiting for me to come by, I am perfectly ready to stand up even to the extent of losing my voice to say, "How are you."

Now, you come in off the street, you are hot, and you are going to leave immediately afterward; you get into this makeup question, and you have gotten into something that, to my mind, is awkward. Besides, you can imagine an old soldier doesn't feel very good under that sort of thing.

Q. John L. Steele, *Time Magazine*: Mr. President, before Vice President Nixon left on his long campaign trip, he said he was going to look for the strong points and the weak points in the Republican campaign. He reported to you yesterday. I wonder if you could tell us about the relative strong and weak points?

THE PRESIDENT. He didn't specify them by exact geographical location.

On the whole, he said that his trip was most encouraging. He said he had the largest and most enthusiastic crowds of his entire political career and a very cordial welcome wherever he spoke.

He said that there were certain places where he stopped in where people would have specific ideas either on the farm problem and one or two on this depressed area problem. But he said, aside from that, he found people quite happy, I believe was the way he expressed it.

He talked for an hour, and we covered a great deal of ground. But I couldn't give you the details now to save my soul.

Q. Edward J. Milne, *Providence Journal*: Mr. President, would you give us a little of the thinking that went into your decision to begin attacking the Democrats, talking back to them instead of sticking solely to laying out your own record?

THE PRESIDENT. This is what I have always said: I want to lay the truth as I know it, the facts as I know them, before the American public. Sometimes people distort these things until you have to clear away the brush before you can show what the actual fact is.

I don't personally enjoy going back and talking about things in the past. I would rather look ahead.

I don't particularly like just saying someone else is wrong. I would rather everybody stuck to what they knew in their hearts to be the progress as they understood it, and stick to that thing.

But, as I say, I feel it's become necessary to clear away this underbrush of misunderstanding in order to get your point clear.

Q. Oscar W. Reschke, German Press Agency: Mr. President, last week the West German Cabinet approved legislation providing a 1-year term of service for military conscripts. A statement issued by the West German press officer at the same time said that disclosure of a proposal to reduce the United States Army manpower made the institution of an 18-month term impossible. Do you have any comment on that?

THE PRESIDENT. There has never been any announcement of plans to reduce the United States Army forces. We have, time and again, pointed out, since 1953, new weapons, new machines, new capabilities of a mechanical sort, make it possible to do occasionally with fewer men. But we have insisted that every single day see an increase in our tactical and striking power. If we can do it with fewer men, of course we will do it. And we have reduced the actual number of men since the Korean war, I think somewhat in the order of 700,000, besides about 150,000 in the defense civilian force.

But never have we said we are going to reduce the strength of the American Army.

Q. Charles E. Shutt, Telenews: Mr. President, I wonder if you could tell us, sir, how you have been standing up, and how you like this increased campaign activity; and do you plan an invasion, political invasion, of the South before election day?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I have no plans, to answer your last part first, beyond what had been announced, that is, no fixed plans. I believe it's been announced I am going up to the Northwest, stopping at Minneapolis-St. Paul for a noonday visit, and then I am going to go to New York City.

In between, there will be places I go. I am trying, at least, to make one short trip a week. Frankly, I like it in this way. I like to go out and see people. I get awfully tired just listening to reports. I like to go out and see people.

And when you do it like I do and you yell, "Hello" or "Hi" or "Good Afternoon," to everybody you see in the street, it is hard on the voice, I will say that, but aside from that I think it is all right.

Q. Roland Evans, Jr., New York Herald Tribune: Mr. President, there has been a good deal of discussion lately in the press of the highroad, lowroad, and middleroad of political campaigning. Could you tell us, sir, which road you feel your campaign is taking, and why, to help clear up some of these issues?

THE PRESIDENT. I am always distrustful of this kind of expression that is supposed to be very meaningful, but I think it's just a way of getting off a generality that isn't really meaningful.

This is what I am trying to do: stick to the truth. And while I have heard it said that I don't know the truth, that everybody in my organization is fooling me, I think I have had quite a bit of experience in finding out what's going on in the organizations I have run, and I think I know pretty well what's going on in this administration. I do keep myself informed, and I try to say those things. They can call it highroad or lowroad—I am on the road of facts and truth.

Q. John Herling, Editors Syndicate: Mr. President, all indications now are that the average hourly manufacturing wage will come to \$2 an hour. Now this is largely, as you know, sir, a result of collective bargaining between unions and management. In the light of these developments, do you believe now that the minimum wage of \$1, which was enacted by Congress, should now be revised upward, as well as the extension of coverage

for the workers that aren't covered by collective bargaining contracts?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, first, I want to see the coverage going out to people that haven't got it, and I will tell you why. It is very simple. If they haven't any coverage at all, every time this rate goes up—the average rate of the factory worker and so on—it becomes more difficult than ever to get out to that fellow who isn't getting any protection at all now, because the differential is so great you would put businesses all over the country just out of work overnight almost.

So I think the first thing to do is to take your minimum wage and to spread it to more people, as I have recommended, I think, two or three times.

Not only is the hourly wage higher this month than it's been in our history, but the weekly pay—I believe it's gone up to 81-something—is higher than it's ever been. So the differential grows greater and greater and the thing to do is get these other people up a little bit first.

Q. Mr. Herling: Sir, do you have figures on the businesses——

THE PRESIDENT. You can get them from the economic people.

Q. Mr. Herling: ——businesses that were put out of commission by the dollar minimum wage?

[*The President confers with Mr. Hagerty.*]

THE PRESIDENT. Mr. Hagerty says they will be released within the next day.

Q. Raymond P. Brandt, St. Louis Post-Dispatch: Has Vice President Nixon made any suggestions to you as to areas to go to or subjects to be covered?

THE PRESIDENT. No. As a matter of fact, the only thing that Dick Nixon said to me, he said, "Don't let them work you to death." He just told me to go on and do as I have been doing. He thought they were fine; and that's all.

Q. Mr. Brandt: Did he say what subjects had got the best response?

THE PRESIDENT. No, I don't think so; at least I don't recall.

Q. Sarah McClendon, *El Paso Times*: Mr. President, we know that many communities want more school buildings, and we know you said you wanted to help them, I believe, on the partnership basis; but how can these communities build more school buildings when the cost of doing so would be a million or two higher as a result of the interest they would have to pay, as a result of your policies on high interest?

THE PRESIDENT. What are my policies on high interest? You have not explained that.

Q. Mrs. McClendon: Well, the Treasury Department and the Federal Reserve Board, under your administration, have contributed to raising the interest rates all over the country.

THE PRESIDENT. To what extent is the Federal Reserve Board under my control?

Q. Mrs. McClendon: Well, I would imagine—I don't know, sir, but I would imagine you would have some influence.

THE PRESIDENT. The only thing I am getting at is don't start out with a premise that isn't quite correct.

The Federal Reserve Board is not under my control, and I think it is proper that the Congress did set it up as an independent agency.

However, the job of getting the money for schools must be executed within the United States. If the Federal Government takes over half of this, and the States do half of it, it looks to me like it's about the best way to solve the thing.

What we have proposed is this: first of all, we will distribute this money on the basis of need; next, the schoolrooms built must be over and above those already planned; and, finally, the States must contribute on a matching basis. We believe that way you will get the most schools.

Now, any place they borrow this money they are going to pay interest, and the Federal Government will probably get it cheaper and give it to them cheaper than anybody else, I should think, but they are going to pay interest wherever they get it.

Q. Robert E. Clark, International News Service: Mr. President, in your Lexington speech the other night you held out the prospect of lower taxes under continuing Republican economies in Washington. Can you tell us what you think the chances are for a tax reduction within the next year or so?

THE PRESIDENT. I wouldn't class them as bright or something right around the corner. I say that logical tax reduction comes from the proof that you can live more economically doing the things that need to be done and must be done; in other words, to get rid of all useless things, all—so far as you can—duplication, achieve as much perfection as you can in human organizations, and then see where you stand and make reasonable tax reductions.

I say that just opens up the avenue by which tax reductions will properly be some day accomplished. I don't say right away, not at all.

Q. Edwin L. Dale, Jr., New York Times: As you know, the H-bomb testing issue has come up in the campaign, and I wonder if you could clarify our position on this point. Is it the position of the Government that an agreement on test-banning alone is of no value, that it must be encompassed in other phases of disarmament?

THE PRESIDENT. Is that report I got going to be published? [*Confers with Mr. Hagerty*]

There is quite a long report on this whole subject going to be published this afternoon at 4 o'clock.

I would just point to one factor that I hope you will understand. To prepare for a test, a test that lately, with us at least, is made to prove that you don't have to have fallout, that you can manufacture "clean" bombs—it takes months and months to prepare for that.

We announce it in advance, and go ahead then, and when the time comes have the test.

The Soviets and the Iron Curtain countries do not announce it. So we don't know anything about their test until after it has been

accomplished, and we could detect it from debris and sound, and so on.

Now, if we agreed not to do it, then we would make no preparations, while they can go right ahead; and by waiting a year or so, they could make tremendous advances where we would be standing still.

So, until we have got an agreement in which we can all have confidence that we are doing the same thing or abstaining from the same thing, I think it would be foolish for us to make any such unilateral announcement.

Q. Kay Ray, *Houston Chronicle*: Mr. President, Chairman Mollohan of the House Subcommittee on Legal and Monetary Affairs last week wrote you regarding General Swing. Have you seen his letter? And if so, I was wondering what your reaction was.

THE PRESIDENT. No, I haven't seen it.

Q. Mrs. Ray: You haven't seen the letter?

THE PRESIDENT. No.

Q. George B. Holcomb, *Labor's Daily*: The United States steelworkers union has issued statistics indicating that during the 8 years from 1947 to '55, members' wages and steel prices both increased by about 65 percent, with the prices actually going up faster than wages. During this same period the industry's profits increased by more than 133 percent. In other words, the profits increase was at double the rate, percentagewise, of price and wage increases.

Some AFL-CIO union people have called for a congressional probe to find out whether this profit increase is justifiable. Would you recommend such an inquiry?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I am not going to answer such a long and involved question here by shooting from the hip. You give me percentages of which I haven't heard, and I can only say that a matter like that will have to be thoroughly studied before I reach a decision.

Q. Edward P. Morgan, American Broadcasting Company: Mr. President, you have told us that one of the reasons impelling you to run for re-election was your desire to strengthen and revitalize the Republican Party. However, many people think and argue that your leadership would be blunted and, perhaps, passed to Mr. Nixon because of the fact that you could not run for a third term.

My question is in two parts: of the Senators that you have heartily endorsed, such as Mr. Dirksen and Mr. Bender, do you consider them completely revitalized as Eisenhower Republicans? And what is your thought, sir, on any inhibitions, if any, to a President that the forbidding of a third term involves?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I would just say that while I believe that from the standpoint of the concepts of our Government that amendment was not wholly wise, I don't believe that a President's influence on his party is lowered too much, for this reason: certainly, whoever is the aspirant at the end of two terms for President will want that President's support, and will want his blessing as he seeks any nomination and election.

As to whether or not his influence is greatly lessened in some directions, it may be. Of course, you understand here I am talking without any experience. But I do believe that the office, the power that goes with it, is such that his influence with his own party will still be great.

Now, with respect to these Senators: in the case of Senator Bender, I know of no instance when he has not supported the programs for which I have sent recommendations to Congress. In the case of Senator Dirksen, once known as an isolationist, for the past 3 years he has at my request taken charge of leading the fight to get the necessary appropriations, because he is a member of that committee, appropriations for foreign aid. Up until this year he was remarkably successful in the efforts he was making. This year, as you know, he got trimmed back a little bit.

I have never denied that Senator Dirksen and I have had some strong differences, but he has turned into a very valuable lieutenant when I called on him for help in, which I said, just that way.

I don't suppose that any individual in the whole world agrees on every detail of politics with any other individual.

But I do say a party cannot be successful unless in the long run it does have basic principles on which it sticks together, the relationship of government to the individual, of government to the economy of our country, of the position we have in the world, and what we must do to sustain it.

Every party, in my opinion, in this country, is always going to have some splinter groups, but you have got to get the mass of your party going along with you, or the party, in the long run, cannot serve the country well.

Q. Robert E. Clark, International News Service: Mr. President, to follow that up, there was a published report in a book that was published a few weeks ago that you at one time in 1953, as I recall, considered forming a third party. Is that correct?

THE PRESIDENT. Oh, as a matter of fact, "considered forming" is an odd thing. I mean that is a misstatement of fact.

I did talk this way: I sat down and studied the votes of the country by county, and what they seemed to mean in the election of '52, and I said what a pity it was that the people who all seemed to think the same way could not vote the same way except by hurdling very great obstacles in some of the States, some of them north and some south.

So I said possibly this country will never be cured of this until they get a third party, but I don't believe we will ever have a third party in the sense of forming a brand new one. I believe it will be the rejuvenation and extension of one of these two.

Q. Ray L. Scherer, National Broadcasting Company: I hope I am not being repetitive, but some observers have expressed misgivings over the argumentative and name-calling stage that the campaign seems to have gotten into.

Can you tell us if this campaign is being fought on the level that you anticipated or, perhaps, at one time hoped for?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, no, at least I don't feel able to stay exactly to the line that I had hoped. I had hoped to be completely expository in my approach rather than, you might say, approaching it in a debating side.

Q. Russell Baker, *New York Times*: Mr. President, if you think the third term amendment was not wholly wise, would you be sympathetic or would you think that it might be wise to consider dropping that some time after your second term?

THE PRESIDENT. My views on this are not as strong as some of the people who were so terribly anxious to get it in our Constitution.

But I believe this: by and large, the United States ought to be able to choose for its President anybody that it wants, regardless of the number of terms he has served.

That is what I believe. Now, some people have said "You let him get enough power and this will lead toward a one-party government." That, I don't believe. I have got the utmost faith in the long-term common sense of the American people.

Therefore, I don't think there should be any inhibitions other than those that were in the 35-year age limit and so on. I think that was enough, myself.

Q. Andrew F. Tully, Jr., *Scripps Howard*: Mr. President, have your doctors placed any limitation on your campaigning?

THE PRESIDENT. Far from it; the doctors always tell me I can do more than I want to.

Q. Francis M. Stephenson, *New York Daily News*: Mr. President, the owners of the Washington baseball team are talking about moving the team out to the Pacific coast. Of course, that would leave us without a baseball team. I was wondering if you would care to comment on it.

THE PRESIDENT. This is the first I have heard of it. But I will tell you one thing, I am "agin" it. I think I got to see two games this year at Washington, and while I could hope that Washington

would have a better team than it does—[*laughter*—]—and stand higher in the league, I still like to go down when I get a chance.

Douglass B. Cornell, Associated Press: Thank you, Mr. President.

NOTE: President Eisenhower's ninety-seventh news conference was held in the Executive Office Building from 10:31 to 10:58 o'clock on Friday morning, October 5, 1956. In attendance: 212.

230 ¶ Statement by the President on the Testing of Nuclear Weapons. *October 6, 1956*

THE AMERICAN government's policy with respect to the testing of large-scale nuclear weapons has been made an issue in the current political campaign.

I regret this fact. The manner in which the issue has been raised can lead only to confusion at home and misunderstanding abroad. There is no subject more difficult than this to discuss before an audience of the whole world—which must include those hostile to us. There is no subject on which the American people should have so united an understanding, free of confusion or partisan differences.

I speak as President, charged under the Constitution with responsibility for the defense and security of our nation.

I therefore must point out the following essentials in our national policy.

One. The testing of atomic weapons to date has been—and continues—an indispensable part of our defense program. The development of these weapons has been a major, if not decisive, deterrent to Communist aggression in past years. And the importance of our strength in this particular field is sharply emphasized by the Communist world's numerical superiority in manpower.

Two. As part of a general disarmament program, the American government, at the same time, has consistently affirmed and

reaffirmed its readiness—indeed, its strong will—to restrict and control both the testing and the use of nuclear weapons under specific and supervised international disarmament agreement. This fact is known to every government in the world. It can scarcely be unknown to any informed American citizen.

Three. In terms of our national weapons policy, it is the responsibility of specific officials of the government—notably the Atomic Energy Commission, the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and the President—to weigh, at all times, the proper emphasis on various types and sizes of weapons, their testing and development. Such emphasis is necessarily subject to constant review and re-examination. This specific matter is manifestly not a subject for detailed public discussion—for obvious security reasons.

In the light of this national policy, I must address myself to certain proposals that have been made over a period of months. I must point out the following facts:

One. There has been more than one proposal made. These proposals have differed. These differences themselves have caused confusion.

On April 21, it was proposed that we give “prompt and earnest attention to stopping further tests of the hydrogen bomb.” This was so explicitly to be a one-sided American action that the suggestion was added that, if other nations failed to do likewise, “we can reconsider our policy.”

On September 5, reference was made to “my proposal last Spring to halt further testing of large nuclear devices, conditioned upon adherence by the other atomic powers to a similar policy.”

On September 20, a new verbal formula urged this country to “take the lead in promoting curtailment by all nations of hydrogen bomb tests.”

Two. The unwisdom of such action, without proper international safeguards, was quickly emphasized by the Democratic Chairman of the Joint Congressional Committee on Atomic Energy, Senator Clinton Anderson. He said: “There is no indica-

tion that Russia would stop their tests. Under the circumstances, I do not believe we could call off ours.”

The testimony of such a responsible Democrat makes clear that this is not—as it should not be—a partisan political issue, but an issue raised by one individual.

Three. The proposals clearly take no account of what would be the result of stopping our tests. Tests of large weapons, by any nation, may be detected when they occur. But any such test follows many months of research and preparation. This means that elaborate tests could be prepared by another nation without our knowledge. By the time we had such knowledge, our present commanding lead in the field of nuclear weapons could be reduced or even overtaken. Thus our power to guard the peace would be weakened.

Four. The proposals made ignore some essential reasons for these tests.

(A) Our most recent tests have been those that have helped us to know how to make—not primarily weapons for vaster destruction—but weapons for defense of our cities against enemy air attack.

(B) As one important result of our latest tests, we have learned to make weapons which reduce fall-out to a minimum and whose destructive effect can be concentrated upon military objectives.

Five. In the verbal confusion surrounding these proposals, an attempt has been made to cite, as having made “similar proposals,” great world figures, even including His Holiness Pope Pius XII. All these men—like this government, like all responsible and thoughtful leaders in the free world, statesmen or churchmen—are sincerely anxious for international agreement allowing effective control of all armaments, nuclear or conventional.

The Pope in his last Christmas message to the world urged “a check on experiments in nuclear weapons by means of an international agreement.” He stated that the matter involved “a question of three steps: renunciation of experimentation with atomic weapons, renunciation of the use of such, and general control of

armaments.” And he called for “the sum total of those three precautions.”

Six. Within the past week, yet another proposition has been advanced. This proposition denounced the Government’s “insistence” on “perfect” or “foolproof” supervision of disarmament as a “danger” imperiling any possible international agreement.

I must solemnly disagree. I shall continue this insistence for however long I am charged with chief responsibility for the security of our nation.

The danger lies in exactly the opposite direction. It lies in the direction of the vain hope that something less than secure safeguards could justify any curtailment of our power to defend ourselves, our allies, and the free world.

Finally: I reaffirm the steadfast intention of this Government to continue striving ceaselessly to ease the burden of arms upon not just a few nations, but upon all peoples of the world.

231 ¶ Message to the Newspaperboys of America. *October 6, 1956*

[Released October 6, 1956. Dated October 2, 1956]

To the 600,000 Newspaperboys of America:

On this day, set aside to recognize one of the Nation’s largest groups of young businessmen, I am glad to send greetings to the newspaperboys of America.

You boys perform a valuable service for your neighbors but I know your work is done to mutual advantage, with profit for you in both immediate and long-range terms. As newspaperboys today, you have a great opportunity to gain the experience which can make you the leaders of tomorrow.

Your constant willingness to help in many community activities throughout the year is already a sign of your growing maturity

and sense of leadership. The strength of our American community life depends upon the voluntary services of thousands of citizens like you.

Best wishes for your success and happiness in your continuing service to our communities and Nation.

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

232 ¶ Statement by the President on the Need for Maintaining the Draft. *October 7, 1956*

THE RECURRING political talk about a possible early ending of the draft is, I believe, hurtful to America's security interests throughout the world.

All America longs for a peaceful world based on justice in which the need for great armaments will no longer exist. But the cause of world peace and of confidence and tranquillity at home is not furthered by suggestions, the effect of which would be greatly to weaken our defenses.

The power of the United States is mainly what holds the world from general war, as we move continuously towards the objective of all true Americans: a just and enduring peace.

We must not be deceived when Communist power adopts a new and smiling tactic. There is no change in its fixed determination to dominate the world.

This Administration intends to protect the freedom of our people with a national security establishment of adequate strength and appropriate composition.

For twenty years or more our government alternated between costly peaks in years of military crisis and starving valleys in years of apparent calm. Twice in this generation relaxations of America's military strength have been followed by costly wars.

Now, since 1953, we have once more gained freedom from armed conflict. We must not let down our guard again. We must not by weakness invite another war.

No man can foretell the duration of this need; no matter how earnestly we strive for peace based upon mutual confidence, the circumstances of today's world require strength to avoid war.

Therefore this Administration's program for national security provides for enduring and supportable military strength. Today the United States has about 2.8 million men in uniform. For an armed force in excess of 1.5 million men, experience shows that Selective Service is indispensable. The draft does more than fill up our armed strength by calling men into service. The very existence of the draft law so stimulates voluntary enlistment that, for some of the Services, draft calls are reduced or non-existent.

The constant effort in the Defense Department is to reduce the number of men in service, without damaging the nation's security. Such reduction cannot be achieved merely by tampering with the draft law.

The first requirement is to take every advantage of new advances in the technology of modern arms. That is what this Administration has done and is doing. We use rapid increases in firepower and in the speed of its delivery to replace numbers of men. We cut the strength of administrative activities in favor of combat duties. We incorporate the whole family of guided missiles and atomic weapons in our military planning and overall defense. In this way, we have produced the finest and most powerful military forces in our peacetime history.

Actually, since the close of the Korean War, we have reduced military manpower by 20%—700,000 men. We have also returned 150,000 civilians employed by the military to civilian work.

For such reasons, we have been able to reduce Selective Service calls from the 523,000 a year rate when we first took office to 136,000 in the current year.

This Administration has established many new choices of military and Reserve service. With all of these choices, no young man has to wait for the draft to plan his future. We do not propose to draft one man more than we need.

This Administration has successfully pressed for major legislation to increase voluntary enlistments and the reenlistment of men already trained, and to keep down monthly draft calls. This legislation has increased the pay and benefits of servicemen, improved the Survivors' Benefits Act, covered the Armed Forces under Social Security, improved Service housing, increased hospitalization benefits for Service families, and in other ways made Service life more rewarding.

The result has been to increase reenlistments, so necessary to our sustained strength, from 24% in 1953 to over 43% in 1956. Three-fourths of the reenlistments were for the long 6-year term.

Our country's good times have complicated the military manpower problem. Today we have the greatest prosperity and the highest level of employment in our history. This very economic health competes with the armed forces for volunteers.

We are doing our best to build a Ready Reserve that will be strong and effective, not just a paper force. We seek to build this strong Reserve, as a needed supplement to our standing forces, and as a means to hold our active duty strength at reasonable levels.

And this I have emphasized before: I am determined that through a strong Reserve, we relieve veterans from being recalled to duty in time of emergency while younger men who have not served stay at home. Selective Service is an essential stimulant for building up the necessary Reserve strength.

The Free World looks to the United States for leadership in standing firm against the Communist push. We must not now betray that leadership by loose talk of soon ending the draft. The world can only construe that as letting down our guard.

To call the draft wasteful and to term it a Maginot Line evidences either ignorance of our military needs or a willingness to take a chance with our Nation's security.

The Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the military Chiefs of the Services, our greatest experts in these matters, have specifically supported the need for continuing the draft law.

The United States is maintaining its military strength to safeguard the American people in their homes, to deter hostile attack at home and abroad, and to encourage the prospect of world peace.

This Administration is determined to continue that strength.

233 ¶ Remarks to Two Groups of Republican Workers in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

October 9, 1956

My Friends:

I am going to make a speech tonight so I am not going to make a double speech to any group. But I am going to make one observation that I think might be helpful in all your political work, including the always irksome job of providing the wherewithal.

I am often asked what is the difference between this country now and in 1952. I have given a lot of thought to it, and I will tell you: the biggest difference, at least so far as my heart and mind show it, is this: We are just happier. We are just a happier nation.

Now, anybody that has had anything to do with great organizations of any kind, military or civil, knows that this is a terribly important fact, because here is morale.

What is a happy crowd? A battalion or a company where they say, "Hi Boss." It's an outfit that has confidence in itself and knows it's going places. It just strikes me that if I had the task of organizing and raising the money, and I started to talk to my prospect, I would say, "How much happier are you than you were four years ago?" And then I would show him what it meant, that he is a man of self-confidence, that he has confidence in his country, which is the organization that you are talking about at the moment. He believes that country is going places.

I think that is the most important thing that we can compare—our country—in that phase of our life, when we talk about 1956 and 1952.

And that being the case, think what 1960 can be!

Thank you and goodbye.

[The President then spoke to a group in an adjoining room]

As you know, ladies and gentlemen, I am going to make a speech tonight and certainly I don't want to inflict myself in the role of speaker on any group twice in the same evening, so I am not going to make a speech.

I am going to tell you a little story I told to a group of Republican workers in Lexington, Kentucky. They liked it so well that two or three of them wrote me a note that I ought to tell it everywhere. It is this:

The Republican workers apparently have a job of explaining themselves to their prospects that they want to vote our way, and they accordingly have to find out the reasons that any prospect may be thinking of voting another way.

So this Republican worker walked up to a man on the street and he said, "I would like to talk a little politics to you, and I would like to start out by asking you whom you are going to vote for next time?"

The man said, "I am going to vote for Stevenson, of course."

Well, that sort of settled the Republican back on his heels and he thought it over a minute, and he said, "Of course, that's your privilege, you are a free-born American citizen, and I acknowledge that, but would you mind telling me the reasons?" "Not at all," he said. "It's perfectly simple. I voted for him four years ago, and everything has been wonderful ever since."

NOTE: The President spoke at the Penn Sheraton Hotel at 6:55 p. m.

234 ¶ Address at the Hunt Armory in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. October 9, 1956

Senator Martin, Senator Duff, members of the Pennsylvania Republican Delegation from the Congress, My Fellow Citizens:

My first task as Mamie Eisenhower's husband is to bring to you a message from her. She is most regretful that she has fallen prey to a cold the like of which seems to be very prevalent in Washington and she is missing one of the trips she had looked forward to very much. She asked me to express her regret.

My friends, I am here tonight to do some plain talking.

Now, there is one thing that is not an issue in this campaign. It is this: the longing of all Americans for peace, prosperity and progress. No one in this country—of any political party—is against peace. No one is against progress, and certainly no one is against prosperity.

What then is the real issue? It is this: what principles—what policies and programs—can best help our people to gain and to guard these blessings?

How shall we debate this issue? I do it with this conviction: what matters in a democracy is not how loudly our leaders speak—but how responsibly—not how big their promises are—but how honest.

And I—for one—am tired of talk about “high roads” and “low roads,” when there is only one road worthy of American intelligence—and that is the road of truth.

Our great concerns, of course, are: the prosperity of our nation, the progress of our people, the peace of the world. And our prayer, as a people, is that we may know these blessings—all at the same time.

For a whole generation, this has rarely been true.

In the 1930's we knew peace—a troubled peace—but few of us knew prosperity: and so there was little progress.

In the 1940's most of us knew prosperity—but there was little peace: so again our progress stalled. And no sooner was Nazism destroyed—than Communist aggression was on the march.

Now—after the events of the last four years—I believe a new hope rises in all of us: we can, in the years just ahead, know the blessings of peace and prosperity and progress all at the same time. But one thing is plain: it will not come by happy accident or lucky coincidence. It can come only by firm and true principles and policies—by hard work—and, as the times may demand it, by sacrifice.

So the issue is—not how we dream about meeting the future—but how we plan to master it.

II.

The record of this Administration is now before the American people. It consists of almost four years of solid accomplishments.

Now there is also before the people a second record—the record of what our political opponents have been saying these last many weeks.

Now I must refer briefly to this verbal record of theirs. Frankly I dislike wasting time in taking notice of political charge and accusation. But when partisan oratory has concealed or twisted the facts, I deem it a duty to you to call it to your attention.

Let me give you a few specifics.

They say that your government of today cares only for “big business”—nothing for “small business.”

Now what are the facts? The fact—the testing fact—is that the enforcement of anti-trust laws has never been more strict and effective than in these last four years. Last year, the year 1955, a total of 54 new anti-trust actions were begun by your government.

The fact is that we—not they—created the Small Business Administration as an independent peacetime agency of govern-

ment. The fact is that the share of defense contracts going to small business during the last three fiscal years is well above the three preceding years.

Now they say that your government has done nothing to check inflation.

What are the facts? The cost of living soared almost 50 percent in the last 7 years of the prior Administration—and it has risen less than 3 percent under this Administration. Now, my friends, with the record of this contrast before the people—I should think the opposition would be the last ones to talk about inflation.

Now they say that your government has ignored our children's need for education.

Again, the facts. Not once but twice, in my State of the Union messages of 1955 and 1956, I urged swift action by Congress. For the first time in our history the Federal government called a great assembly of educators from all over the country to help develop a school program; the plan I submitted to Congress reflected their wisdom and experience. That 5-year program was rejected by the opposition. One fact in this thing is quite clear and simple: this Administration urged action—and the opposition controlling the Congress produced nothing. And now, I propose to urge the next Congress to get this job done—not in five—but in four years.

Next—in their political oratory—we find a whole series of curious statements falsely implying that this Administration cares nothing for the man that they rather patronizingly call “the little fellow.”

Now, by the way, who has the right to call any American the “little fellow”? Doesn't the word “American” still mean that we are all equal?

They say your government is indifferent to labor. They say your government is negligent in social security, indifferent to the unemployed.

This amounts to saying that your government has no interest in the people of America. This amounts to the charge that your government has betrayed your trust. Such talk is political irresponsibility at its worst.

I wonder just what kind of political children they think the American people are? And I also wonder what kind of man they think I am?

Now again, let's look at some pertinent facts.

Labor's share in our national income today is 70 cents out of every dollar—a record high for the last 20 years.

Labor unions have grown to their greatest strength—and won their best contracts—in all the history of American labor.

Social security has been extended to include 10 million more workers.

Federal programs to advance the health of the American people have been expanded and improved as never before in our history.

Unemployment insurance has been extended to 4 million more workers—and its benefits increased by the States—at our urging—for many more millions.

My friends, this last month, just this last September, the unemployment rate in America was the lowest it has been in the whole last twenty years.

And finally: these political orators offer us this bundle of things. They promise bigger government spending on every front—lower taxes for every citizen—all wrapped up in the bright package of a balanced national budget.

Now these contradictions inspire one comment. Many people have said—and I agree—that this Administration marches politically in the “middle of the road.” Obviously, any political opposition has a natural right to try to pass us on this road—by going either to the right or to the left. But there is one thing that is not natural, for the simple reason that it cannot be done: to pass on both sides at the same time.

III.

Now, my friends, I turn with considerable relief from the record of this clattering campaign oratory—to the record of this Administration—and to the progress of our country.

I need not recite the details. They are written plainly across the land we live in. But this truth I repeat: the facts of this progress are not political or economic accidents. Each is based upon specific principles and policies.

I give only a few examples.

How and why has the number of civilian jobs increased since 1952 at a rate twice the pace of the preceding four years?

It has not been done by fabulous Federal spending—for spending has been cut by billions. It has been done by encouraging the skills of American labor and the power of American industry—to enrich the lives, not of a favored few, but of all Americans.

How and why have we been able to check the rise in the cost of living?

It is done by applying sense and thrift and discipline to our costs and our fiscal policies. This is the very foundation of a sound dollar. And remember, a sound dollar is vital—not for the rich, who may afford the loss of inflation—but for every citizen looking ahead to social security payments—in sound dollars.

How and why have we been able—in other ways—to help labor toward such great progress and strength?

It has not been done by using government power as a substitute for good faith in labor-management relations—as when the previous Administration tried to take over the steel industry in 1952. It has been done by respecting free collective bargaining—and respecting the men who do the bargaining.

Now these few simple examples make one thing clear. There is a basic conflict between our policies and those of the opposition.

They stand for: bigger government costs and spending beyond revenue—therefore, loose handling of the dollar—therefore, inflation—and, inevitably, centralized Federal power.

We stand for: economy in government—stabilized living cost—and the citizen's greater freedom from Federal intervention in his work and life. My friends, we stand equally for effective governmental action in all phases of our national life where Federal action can best do the job. Now, out of these broad principles of government grows our partnership policy among Federal, State and local governments.

And we believe—in these last four years—we have proved our case.

One of the stalwarts who has assisted this Administration right straight through has been your own Senator Duff, whom I expect you to return to the Senate this fall.

Representatives John Saylor, Jim Fulton, Bob Corbett—and I notice here this evening also Dick Simpson, have also been helpful. And before I leave this point, may I ask you also, as Pennsylvanians, to send down to help them, your new and young candidates Herb Morrison, Sid Lockley, Willits McCaskey, Dick Witt and Ross Walker.

IV.

Now, my friends, as we have prospered, we have vigorously pursued our greatest quest. For all things in life would mean little—without the faith that we, as a people, were on the road to peace—a peace of justice in a world of law.

For many of us, the hopeful turning in that road seemed to come three years ago. That was the moment when death—death in the mountains of Korea—no longer cast its shadow across the homes of America.

Yet that moment marked—not the end—but the beginning of our struggle for peace. For though the guns are stilled, yet true peace—a peace in which all peoples of the world may confidently trust—means much more than this.

It means a world in which all of man's toil serves his advancement—not his destruction.

Some of the ways in which we have been waging this struggle:

We have been helping other peoples in the world to save or to regain their own freedom.

We have been perfecting our own military strength—making it so effective and so efficient that our free economy can sustain it for however long we live in peril.

And we have made clear to all peoples that America seeks strength only because America loves peace. The meeting at the Summit of Geneva made this clear, a fact that later the Presidents of all the Americas, meeting in Panama, recognized and applauded. There have been other clear proofs of our purpose: our plans for world disarmament—programs of atoms-for-peace—the fostering of world trade—and helping other peoples combat poverty and need.

We have—in all this—simply paid attention to some plain lessons of recent history. They are:

Weakness invites aggression. Strength stops it.

And our determination to resist aggression must be made plain before—and not after—the event. For the first you can do with peaceful acts and policies. But the second you can do only with guns.

So, in all our work for peace, we have constantly sought to strengthen our alliances—and our understanding—with all our friends in the world. Through meetings and constant correspondence with leaders of the other free nations—many of them my personal friends—I have tried to consolidate our common purpose. For this road to peace is one that all of us can travel—else none can do so.

My fellow citizens, these matters should always be studied exhaustively and discussed soberly in our democracy.

Here—again—I must mention what the opposition has been saying only because it is so vital that we all understand these matters clearly.

They—the opposition—have urged stout military defense with

greater reliance on modern weapons—but have advised stopping our atomic tests.

They have promised national security and a bold role in world affairs—while they urge us to start thinking about ending the military draft.

Now I, my friends, as your President and Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces, cannot and will not make proposals contrary to national interest—nor offer you attractive prospects if they are unjustified by world realities.

I will not promise that winning a peace based on justice will be cheap and easy.

The issue of our military draft is no matter of a technical point to be scored in a political debate. It is a matter of the safety of our nation.

Why?

Because we need the manpower.

Because we cannot pretend that rockets and bombs make brains and hands obsolete.

Because our future military burden must not be borne always and entirely by veterans who have already earned their nation's gratitude.

Because we cannot encourage our allies in the world to shoulder arms—while we throw down our own.

Now, let me say, the truth before us is clear.

Strong—we shall stay free.

Weak—we shall have only our own good intentions to be written as our epitaph.

v.

The history of free men is never really written by chance—but by choice—their choice.

It is a matter of national will, of political decision, of moral purpose.

If our will today be strong, our decision emphatic, and our purpose clear—I truly believe that these years before us may be-

long to our history as among the most fruitful and the most honorable that America has ever known.

My fellow citizens, no one man—certainly not I—nor any political party could ever truthfully pretend that his efforts—or its efforts—alone can bring all good things to pass.

But I dare speak a simple belief—and a simple prayer.

I would dare believe, first, that history may say that, during the years of my first Administration, the faith of our people—in the growth of peace and of justice—grew steadily stronger.

But beyond this, there is something deeper. Looking ahead, I would pray that if it be the people's will that I continue my present service—the years of my second Administration may prove that—thanks to the labor of all Americans—this great faith of theirs was justified.

Thank you very much.

235 ¶ The President's News Conference of *October 11, 1956.*

THE PRESIDENT. Please sit down.

I think about 12:30, at least some time today, there will be a statement issued on the general situation in the drought field. As you know, it's been very serious for several years.

There will be a recitation of what has been done by Federal and State and other authorities, and what the plans are now to try to increase and, in some certain instances, carry on on an emergency basis until Congress meets again, like the supplying of money for hay, additional subsidies for grain—raise it to a dollar and a half per hundredweight that the Federal Government will pay for grain—and reducing freight rates in the region.

Yesterday the Ex-Im Bank announced a consummation of a plan for lending \$5 million to Mexico with which they are going to buy breeder stock out of the southern Texas area.

Finally, for some time before the end of the year, but after the election, I am going to call a conference for all the responsible people in the area, trying to do something more about it than has been done.

It's a kind of a thing that the longer it lasts the more severe it gets. So we will issue quite a detailed statement.

Questions?

Q. Robert E. Clark, International News Service: Mr. President, Adlai Stevenson said recently that scientists have a better understanding of his proposal for halting H-bomb tests than politicians.

In a Seattle speech Tuesday night he said, and this is a direct quote: "Republican politicians, including the President, have little understanding or sympathy with attempts to save man from the greatest horror his ingenuity has ever devised." Do you have any comment on that?

THE PRESIDENT. Only this: that I admit I have no great knowledge of the processes of nuclear fusion and nuclear fission, but I have been working with scientists for a very good many years in all of this military field, and I have never expressed an opinion involving the scientific parts of it without having the advice and the information provided me by scientists in whom I had confidence.

Moreover, I think for 3½ years the record is there; that we have done everything that is humanly possible, consistent with our own concern for our own national safety, to get this thing under control and use it for peace.

Q. John Herling, Editors Syndicate: Mr. President, the possibility of the elimination of the draft and the stopping of the hydrogen bomb have, according to reliable sources, also been under consideration inside the administration and the AEC.

Would you comment, sir, on the widely circulated reports that similar proposals were being planned by Republican strategists for public announcement by you during this campaign if Mr.

Adlai Stevenson had not made them first, and does your rejection of them now freeze further consideration of such proposals?

THE PRESIDENT. You are telling me things about my administration that I have never heard, and I am quite sure that it's not true. No one has come up and has suggested to me that we eliminate the draft in my administration.

Now, I tell you frankly, I have said my last words on these subjects. I think I have expressed all that is necessary to express on them for the purposes of any political campaign, and as far as the record of the Government to provide for our security in the fairest, best, most economical way we can, to make certain that we are doing our share in seeing that the free world is kept free from attack, it's right there in the records of 3½ years to read.

Q. Ray L. Scherer, National Broadcasting Company: Mr. President, dispatches from both London and Paris reflect the rising feeling of anti-Americanism, our allies apparently feeling that the administration's foreign policy is being inhibited by election-year considerations. My question is: Do you think there is any basis for such a feeling abroad?

THE PRESIDENT. No, I don't.

Now, I don't believe you can talk about these two countries in the same breath, and we must be talking about the Suez Canal affair, because that is the one that has been alleged to be creating this difficulty.

Populations in different countries understand these affairs somewhat differently, depending upon their own national traditions, their background, and the, you might say, the closeness to the situation.

You will recall, for example, that public opinion in other countries did not at all agree with American public opinion when we announced our determination to protect Formosa and make certain that it did not fall. Public opinion in other countries didn't go along very well with that.

It has been alleged in respect to this Suez Canal affair that the American policy has not been clear and firm. This is an error.

From the very first day that we took up this question there were certain principles that guided us, and those principles were enunciated in that 18-power agreement that was sent by a committee to Cairo.

Those principles were four in number. As I remember they, of course, respected Egyptian sovereignty; they insisted upon the efficient operation of the Canal; and they pointed out as the, you might say, the central principle that the Canal could not be operated for the political purposes of any one single country. They provided, also, for fair and increasing share of the profits to Egypt and profits to no one else.

Those are the principles that have guided us throughout.

The 18-nation program that was sent to Cairo was a plan that, it was believed by those 18 nations, would effectually carry out these principles. But it was never implied by any manner of means that these details were not negotiable as long as the four principles were observed.

Now, I must tell you this: I asked the Secretary of State this morning—he came in to see me—whether he had ever had any intimation from anyone in British officialdom whom he met, that they were dissatisfied with our stand in this thing, or thought that we had been vacillating and not carrying forward as we started out. He hasn't, and I assure you that I haven't.

I do want to make this clear: our friendships with Britain are very, very important to us, not only sentimentally but officially, politically, economically, and militarily.

The same goes for France. But France's attitude is somewhat different, and I can't say exactly the same thing with respect to them because they are already in a war in North Africa, and there you can understand that they are much more tense than even the British population.

So I think these things arise out of misunderstandings, which I hope can be cleared up soon.

Q. Pat Munroe, Albuquerque Journal: Mr. President, the Board of Directors of the Panama Canal Company meets here on Saturday, and because of alleged abuses of travel on company ships by Members of Congress and their staffs and families, the Board has been asked to release their passenger lists for recent years. Have you any personal views on what the Board should do, sir?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, now, there are lots of things go on in this Government and I try to keep in touch with most of them, but I hadn't heard about this possibility of asking this question.

I would say this: when anyone travels on a governmental ship, I know of no reason on earth why the passenger list shouldn't be published the day the ship sails.

Q. Charles W. Roberts, Newsweek: On September 5 you stated that it was not important whether you endorsed the Supreme Court's decision on integration so long as it was enforced. Since then a number of people, mostly Democrats, have said that it is important whether you endorse the decision. Could you amplify your position on that?

THE PRESIDENT. Look, I put that in this way: We start out with article I of the Constitution, and we go on right down to the end, including its amendments, and the Constitution as it is interpreted by the Supreme Court, I am sworn to uphold it.

I don't ask myself whether every single phase of that Constitution, with all its amendments, are exactly what I agree with or not.

I am sworn to uphold it, and that is what I intend to do.

Q. Edward T. Folliard, Washington Post: Mr. President, would you adopt the role of political strategist just for a moment?

THE PRESIDENT. I will try, Mr. Folliard. [*Laughter*]

Q. Mr. Folliard: And tell us how you appraise the 1956 campaign, how do you think it's going, from your standpoint?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I admit that my viewpoint on this is not as broad as is that of some people that can travel further afield than I have.

After all, I have got a job here to do, and this isn't like establishing a summer headquarters in Denver or even staying a week in Augusta. There you can take your staff and you can operate just as effectively as you can here. But when you're out campaigning I assure you you can't be running this office very well, and you have to get back quite frequently.

As you know, so far I have been limited to trips into Iowa, Illinois, a short one in Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Kentucky.

The only thing I have got to go by is the crowds, their reception of me, and their general attitude. And I must say that the receptions I have had are those that warm my heart. I go just exactly as I did in '52, I try to lay out exactly what I believe, what I am for, what I am leading the Republican Party to support. And if that is what the American people want, I am delighted. But I abide by their decision with no question about it at all, just exactly as I said in a question before, I abide by the Constitution of the United States.

Q. Robert J. Donovan, New York Herald Tribune: Mr. President, following up that question, we have had a good deal of oratory in the campaign now. What do you think are the real issues that are going to settle this election?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, as I tried to say the other night, no one is against peace, no one is against progress, and certainly, no one is against prosperity.

Now, the thing comes down, generally speaking, to the management of America's affairs at home.

I think that we are more concerned on our side with trying to follow the Lincolnian dictum of doing for people the things they can't do well themselves, but to avoid interference where people can do things for themselves. That is sort of the underlying basic philosophy.

In order to allow our people to progress in keeping with the new industrial and economic changes that have come on us, we believe that it is very necessary for Government to do certain things, to support the social security, the unemployment insur-

ance plans, and all of that sort of thing, to help the research in health, to help provide schoolrooms, because of the great hiatus in construction that occurred through war and depression and emergencies, get that all straightened out.

At the same time, we believe that if this country is going to prosper and be strong at home, it's got to have a sound dollar. If you don't have a sound dollar this, my friends, is what happens: All of your pension schemes begin to fall to the ground, and our country today, I don't know how many millions out of the 168, but many, many of those millions—most of them—are coming to depend for their security in their old age on pensions and social security. If those dollars don't remain sound, those older people are going to be hurt. They are the ones we are thinking about.

So the sound dollar, which means economic and efficient handling of your fiscal affairs and, finally, the greatest possible decentralization of government. It seems to me today we are following the guidance of Jefferson in this respect. He put it this way: "The least government is the best government," and he said, "The closer government is to the people the better." So that is what we are for.

The partnership policy of which we speak is to give the maximum responsibility into the hands of local and State governments to run their own affairs, with the Federal coming in as a partner, a quick and willing partner, when it's needed.

Now, I believe that the Democratic Party approaches it—I mean, the leaders that are now speaking for them, I don't know whether the Party as a whole, I am not trying to speak for them—as I understand the speeches being made on the other side, they start from the other end: "We take a government and we run things from government, there is where we start."

Instead of trying to release, to guide, and to help the great and illimitable results you get from a free people doing these things, they want to guide and direct; and they are not concerned particularly with the sound dollar because they talk about raising expenditures, cutting taxes, and that means, as I see it, deficit

spending. You cannot continue to spend on a deficit basis without hurting your dollar.

So I think that in those things you have got a real issue: How do we manage America's internal affairs? I really believe this.

In foreign affairs, no one has debated, so far as I know, on general broad policy. But the debate has been "Are we competent or are we not competent? Do we know the right people?" I guess, or "What don't we know?"

I don't know exactly what the argument is. But it's not, there, down to issues. In the "home" management, I believe it is.

Q. Paul Wooton, New Orleans Times Picayune: Mr. President, would you be inclined to sign the rivers and harbors bill if the next Congress eliminates the items that were not approved by the Corps of Engineers?

THE PRESIDENT. Well now, you're putting a little bit of a tax on my memory. I remember the one that——

Q. Mr. Wooton: It was the authorization——

THE PRESIDENT. A number of them that have not been approved and not gone over. I will put it this way: I am very anxious to preserve the natural resources of this country. I have made this talk to you people several times, no need to repeat it.

I just say this: On Monday I am pushing a button, I believe it will start the earth moving on two dams at once, in the Flaming Gorge, and in Glen Echo [Glen Canyon].

I believe in these things, and so whenever they are done right, are properly studied, properly put in priorities, appropriations made for them, and represent a steady progress instead of just quick and go, political in nature, I will approve them, you can bet on that. [*Confers with Mr. Hagerty*]

Excuse me—Glen Canyon, not Glen Echo. [*Laughter*]

Good thing I have a Mr. Hagerty.

Q. Charles S. von Fremd, CBS News: Mr. President, can you tell us whether you are approaching or have reached a decision as to whether aid, economic aid, to Yugoslavia will be continued?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, as you know, I have to make that decision on the 16th; in such matters as that, the final decision is never made and published until the last minute because you get every second of time you can to get in tune with the latest intelligence, the latest outlook on the situation. But it will be published on the 16th.

Q. Mrs. May Craig, Portland (Maine) Press Herald: Mr. President, we have just had a rather brief medical report on Mr. Stevenson. Can you tell us when we will have the final report on your health?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I don't know exactly, Mrs. Craig, what date, but I would say before the end of the month.

Q. Laurence H. Burd, Chicago Tribune: Mr. President, you and other Republicans had warned earlier of the danger of complacency on the Republican side. From your own observation and what you have gotten in reports how do you think that problem is going?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I don't know exactly how to interpret the word "complacency."

What I mean is, I don't want to see America deciding elections on 50 percent of the electorate turning out, or 60 percent. I would like to see us get up and get a truly respectable figure in the electorate turning out.

Now, as far as I have been able to detect any complacency in the places I have gone, starting in San Francisco and right down to this date, I haven't seen a bit. But I have been told that there has been in many sections a real falloff in registration. That disappoints me, and I don't know whether it's Democratic, Independent, or Republican; I don't think that can be known. I am against, I am just against, people not exercising this great right.

Q. Edward J. Milne, Providence Journal: Mr. President, what do Dr. Burns and the other economics people tell you about the increase in the cost of living? Do they feel that it's leveling off or that the time has come for even more direct controls or—

THE PRESIDENT. It's something, I must tell you, that is really never answered. It's a thing that every day, every week is studied with the economic people, and every week reports made to me.

You have to fight, you have to watch, you have to adjust yourself all the time because of our great belief that in this thing is one of the problems that must be dealt with intelligently if the American people are to prosper.

And, as you know, there is one factor that is not under our control. That is the money rates which are provided by the Federal Reserve Board, independent, and I think properly, of the Executive.

Q. Herman A. Lowe, Manchester (New Hampshire) Union Leader: Mr. President, have you received a final report yet on General Swing's trips to Mexico, and could you tell us what they show?

THE PRESIDENT. No, I haven't. As a matter of fact, I am sorry, but did I ever promise to get that report here?

Q. Mr. Lowe: I understood you did, sir.

THE PRESIDENT. I don't recall it, but I can. I have never seen a report on them, but I understood they were made to Congress. Wasn't that true? [*Addressing Mr. Hagerty*]

Mr. Hagerty: I don't know, sir.

THE PRESIDENT. I know it came up before a committee of Congress, and I assumed the full report must be before that committee.

Q. Sarah McClendon, El Paso Times: I can explain the General Swing matter. [*Laughter*]

THE PRESIDENT. I am very grateful! [*Laughter*]

Q. Mrs. McClendon: What happened was that General Swing was investigated by a congressional committee, then the matter was turned over to the Justice Department for investigation, at the request of Mr. Brownell, I believe, and they have heard nothing from Mr. Brownell. So recently Congressman Mollohan, chairman of the committee, appealed to you by letter to see if Mr. Brownell could give them any report on this. And

at the last press conference you said you had not seen the letter to you from Mr. Mollohan.

THE PRESIDENT. No, I haven't.

Q. Mrs. McClendon: Well, would you mind investigating that to see if you can get something out of the Justice Department?

THE PRESIDENT. Do you think I should go on back for the last 15 years and investigate every single time that transportation is used possibly improperly?

Q. Mrs. McClendon: Oh, no, sir; no, sir. This is a specific——

THE PRESIDENT. Yachts and things like that? [*Laughter*]

Q. Mrs. McClendon: No, sir.

THE PRESIDENT. I just wondered.

Q. Mrs. McClendon: No, sir. This is a—I must qualify my question—this has to do with the specific trips of General Swing into Mexico——

THE PRESIDENT. Of course.

Q. Mrs. McClendon: ——which were referred to in the letter.

THE PRESIDENT. Of course, I will look them up and I will say this: If the Attorney General has completed a report, I know of no reason why he wouldn't publish it unless he has to give it to the committee and not to the public.

Q. McLellan Smith, Delaware State News: Mr. President, I would like to digress from foreign affairs and the draft and those things, and ask what is delaying the appointment of a Highway Administrator to direct the new multibillion-dollar highway program? Congress passed an act creating the office of Highway Administrator, with practically sub-Cabinet rank, and as yet no appointment has been made. Would you know what has been delaying that?

THE PRESIDENT. I don't this minute, but that could be easily found out. I think it was the Department of Commerce that had the responsibility. I can easily find out.

Q. Mr. Smith: It was to be made by you.

THE PRESIDENT. You might find out—[*confers with Mr. Hagerty*] I am told it is coming up very quickly.

Q. Raymond P. Brandt, St. Louis Post-Dispatch: Your friend Paul Hoffman, writing in *Collier's* today, says that Senators, whom he calls unappeasables, Malone, Jenner, and McCarthy have no place in the new Republican Party. He also said that you had determined that those who were not with you are against you.

THE PRESIDENT. Well, what about it?

Q. Mr. Brandt: Do you agree that McCarthy and Jenner and Malone fit in with your picture of the new Republican Party?

THE PRESIDENT. I will say this, Mr. Brandt: Let's remember, there are no national parties in the United States. There are 48 State parties, and they are the ones that determine the people that belong to those parties.

There is nothing I can do to say that one is not a Republican. The most I can say is that in many things they do not agree with me. Therefore, in looking for help to get over a program, which is the sole purpose of political leadership, as I see it, for the good of the country, I can't look to them for help. But we have got to remember that these are State organizations, and there is nothing that I can do to say so-and-so is Republican and so-and-so is not a Republican.

Q. Mr. Brandt: Well, in the same article he says that Schoepel of Kansas and Goldwater are "faint hopes," "men of faint hope," but you are relying on Senator Knowland to bring them over.

THE PRESIDENT. Well, look, the more people that agree with me, of course, the wiser I think they are. [*Laughter*]

And so I want as many Republicans as I can possibly get going down the line with me, because time is short. You find out how short it is sometimes when you are trying to get these things done before the close of a session, and you need all the help you can get; and I am never going to stop trying.

Q. Robert W. Richards, *The Copley Press*: Mr. President, the reporters traveling with you have noticed that you draw large and enthusiastic groups of young people. How do you account for it? You campaigned on a couple of college campuses without having any beer cans thrown at you, yet, anyway. Is it because of your plea for the 18-year-old vote or was it because these young people, as in the days of Roosevelt, know no other President? What is your feeling about the young voter?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I think it is a mere matter of this: for many, many years, I have had a terrific interest in the youngsters. I really believe that we tried to delay too long their taking a very serious and vital part in the running of our country.

As I tried to explain it to them—I used to at Columbia—if I am 60 and they are 20, they certainly own 40 years more of the future than I do, and they ought to be vitally interested right now and begin to prepare themselves.

I think it is merely this: that I have shown this faith and trust in youngsters. I have noted in several articles that people say there is a very great percentage of youngsters. I think it is because of that, not merely because I said I thought that the voting age ought to come down to where we can require a man to fight. That was just an aphorism, I admit, but I felt that way during the war, and I still feel that way. But I think that is just an aside, that's all.

Q. Charles E. Shutt, *Telenews*: Mr. President, I believe you told us many times here, sir, that you would go anywhere and do just about anything in the interests of peace. If you thought a personal appearance before the U. N. would help solve this Suez crisis, would you make such an appearance, sir?

THE PRESIDENT. Why, of course I would. There is nothing in the world that I wouldn't do to preserve peace with justice.

Remember, you must have peace with justice, or it's not peace. Just to win a peace by saying, "Well, we won't fight right now," is not good enough, although as long as you are talking and not fighting, that is a gain.

But what I am saying is as long as you can get a peace based on justice, I would go anywhere, do anything in the effort to do so.

Q. James B. Reston, *New York Times*: Mr. President, may I ask you a question, sir, about your philosophy about this campaign oratory?

On Tuesday night, I think it was, you said: "There is only one road worthy of American intelligence, and that is the road of truth." Then down farther in the same speech you went on and compared the rise in the cost of living in the last 3 years with the 7 normally inflationary post-war years, and in discussing the education bill you said you proposed it and the opposition rejected it.

THE PRESIDENT. I don't know that I said the opposition; I said the opposition-controlled Congress rejected it, as I recall.

Q. Mr. Reston: Yes.

THE PRESIDENT. It was controlled by the opposition.

Q. Mr. Reston: My question is this: On this business of campaign oratory, how do you reconcile statements like that with the new morality which you yourself have done more to invoke than anybody else?

THE PRESIDENT. But I would say this: I would say it again because it is true. I worked with the educators of America to develop a plan. I sent it down, and in its first test vote it was defeated, with 215 to 9 voting against it in the opposition party.

Now, from there on they began to load it up with things, many of which I couldn't have accepted, and I wasn't doing anything to get their bill through because there were features in it—

I demanded, first of all, that the buildings that we built would be over and above existing plans. The plan they brought out had nothing of that in it.

I said it would be distributed according to basis of need; if it's not going to be distributed according to basis of need, how *are* you going to distribute it?

So I said those two things made that plan unacceptable to me, and I am perfectly ready to stand up and say I take responsibility for not allowing that. But I do say that the plan that was pre-

pared with the full approval of this great mass of educators, I think it was almost a thousand, as I remember, that was the one that was defeated in the House.

Q. Marvin L. Arrowsmith, Associated Press: Mr. President, there has been some talk this year that the Republicans are writing off the South. Do you have any plans to campaign in the South before you are through?

THE PRESIDENT. I have no definite plans, I think, except one meeting beyond this northwestern trip that is now occupying my attention.

But to say that I write off the South is to say that there is a section in the United States in which I have no interest. Of course I have got an interest in the South; I spent many years of my life there, and I would hope that I would get an opportunity to go back to that area.

Dayton Moore, United Press: Thank you, Mr. President.

NOTE: President Eisenhower's ninety-eighth news conference was held in the Executive Office Building from 10:33 to 11:02 o'clock on Thursday morning, October 11, 1956. In attendance: 198.

236 ¶ Statement by the President on the Drought and the Federal Disaster Relief Programs.

October 11, 1956

OF THE MANY natural forces that wage war on farmers and ranchers, the most demoralizing is prolonged drought. In its grip the individual farmer is well nigh helpless. Possibly my feeling about such a calamity is intensified by a family incident of many years ago. My father, a small town central Kansas merchant, went broke when drought and pests destroyed the crops in that area.

This year more than 500 counties in 14 states have been designated drought disaster areas. Last year there were 326 counties

in 14 states—the year before, 1055 counties in 19 states—in 1953, 795 counties in 18 states. I cite these facts to show the broad scope of the problem.

Federal help has been correspondingly broad. During the past three years the Department of Agriculture has spent some \$550,000,000 for disaster relief and about \$184,000,000 to bolster livestock prices. In these three years Federal help has consisted of:

1. More than \$100,000,000 worth of Government-owned surplus foods distributed free through state welfare offices to needy people in cities, towns and rural areas.

2. More than \$140,000,000 worth of Government-owned surplus feed grains to help farm and ranch families maintain foundation livestock.

3. Free grain furnished to small farm families through state welfare offices to maintain subsistence livestock.

4. More than \$26,000,000 to help buy hay and other roughage to maintain foundation livestock, including dairy cattle.

5. More than \$18,000,000 to help carry out wind erosion control measures.

6. Special permission in 562 counties in 12 states to graze soil bank reserved acres.

7. Nearly \$260,000,000 for emergency credit and livestock loans.

8. More than \$184,000,000 for beef and pork products to strengthen distressed livestock prices. Frozen hamburger is now being purchased to help stabilize prices of certain grades of cattle.

9. More than \$1,000,000 of long-term, favorable-rate loans for small businesses in drought-stricken communities.

Despite these efforts, the drought this year has reached disastrous proportions for ranchers and farmers in some areas—especially in the Southwest. Drought has persisted there for years. Again this year Fall rains have not come.

We will continue to use freely every existing program and legal authority to ease the plight of these hard-hit families. In addi-

tion, these steps are now being taken to help relieve the acute distress:

1. To help maintain foundation livestock herds, we are increasing from \$1.00 to \$1.50 per hundred pounds the Federal subsidy paid with Government-owned feed grains. This will cut feed costs and move more grain from government stocks to drought-stricken farmers and ranchers. Secretary of Agriculture Benson will issue the details promptly.

2. Yesterday the Board of Directors of the Export-Import Bank of Washington authorized a loan of \$5,000,000 to Mexico to buy United States beef and dairy cattle. Of this, at least \$3,750,000 is expected to buy some 40,000 beef cattle from livestock owners in the southwest who are short of feed. Purchasing agents of other foreign governments are visiting the southwestern states this week in connection with pending negotiations to buy beef for foreign consumption.

3. We have already used up the \$10,500,000 available to buy hay and other roughage to maintain foundation livestock during this fiscal year. One-half of it is committed in Texas. I have allocated \$5,000,000 more from Federal Civil Defense disaster relief funds and will allocate such additional sums as may be needed to continue this program until the Congress convenes and supplemental funds can be appropriated.

4. Another heavy drain on distressed farmers and ranchers is the payment of full transportation charges on hay needed for the next few months. It may also be necessary to send substantial numbers of livestock from dry pastures to other areas for temporary feeding. Yesterday we asked the western railroads to consider ways and means of assisting farm and ranch people in drought areas during this difficult period.

The present disaster relief programs are the most extensive ever applied. I most earnestly hope that those programs and the new steps mentioned will help ease the present distress.

Before the end of the year I plan to visit the stricken areas to make certain that the present programs are giving maximum help

and that the additional steps mentioned are having good results. While there I will meet with Federal, state and local officials administering the drought relief programs, and also with affected farmers and ranchers, to develop any needed additional programs, including new legislation, for submission to the next Congress.

237 ¶ Statement by the President Concerning
Rate Reductions by Western Railroads in Aid of
Drought Disaster Areas. *October 11, 1956*

WILLIAM T. FARICY, President of the Association of American Railroads, reported to me this afternoon that, pursuant to my request made on the western railroads to assist farm and ranch people in drought areas during the present difficult period, the western railroads had authorized him to say that they are proceeding to put into effect on Saturday, October 13th a 50% reduction in rates on hay in carloads.

The reduction will apply from all western states to the drought disaster areas in Texas, Oklahoma, Arizona, Colorado, Kansas, Nevada, New Mexico and Utah. In addition, the railroads are arranging, effective at the same time, to establish rates for outbound movement of livestock from the drought areas to feeding grounds in Western Territory which will permit free return transportation to originating points.

I know that I speak for our people, especially those in the areas affected, in saying that all of us are deeply grateful to our Railways for this public spirited and prompt action.

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

238 ¶ Remarks to the Civil Service Assembly of
the United States and Canada. *October 11, 1956*

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen:

I am indeed pleased to know that my predecessor, Theodore Roosevelt, was able to greet you at your birth. It is my privilege to come, fifty years later, to congratulate you on reaching so successfully and in such good health and strength your half-century mark. And it is a privilege to do so.

I am not going to talk about all the statistics that have been piled on my desk in the last few days about our Civil Service—about the things we have tried to do—about the developments through which it has gone—the programs we have recently put into effect for its betterment, things that are still on the docket. You know most of these very well indeed.

I would like to talk for just a moment about some of the meanings of the Civil Service as I see it.

Any free government certainly needs a vast corps of well-trained, dedicated, intelligent, long-service people who can take care of all the intricate jobs of operating the many and manifold activities that governments these days are compelled to carry on.

Unless we have proper policies for attracting into that service the kind of people that are needed, programs to give them the opportunity to satisfy human longings for advancement and for recognition and the certainty that their old age will be taken care of in such a way that they will always live respectable and rewarding lives—then we can't expect to have such an organization.

Through them—through these permanent organisms—we have coordination, we have continuity, not so much in so-called political policy but in programs of procedure and the purposes in government that are absolutely necessary. I venture to think they have a similar opportunity in developing better knowledge and feeling between sister republics, such as we have represented in this organism between Canada and America. It is just as important

that each government knows how the other operates in its procedural intricacies as it is to know that the man at the top may be a Liberal or a Conservative, a Democrat or a Republican.

I am sure that the history of this organization will show that much good has developed and accrued to both of our countries because of the kind of association you have.

The final point I wanted to speak about was this: We cannot have the kind of an organization—Civil Service organization—in any government—any free government—if we deliberately involve it in the political quarrels of partisan organizations.

The Civil Service must be protected from it. And this is one reason why it is so necessary that the so-called political appointments be clearly defined, segregated and separated from the career service of which I speak.

There are some positions that because of their character in policy-making have a great function in carrying out the policies, let us say, on which a particular party was elected to carry on the government for four years. Those positions properly must not be Civil Service, because if they are, the Civil Service is both involved in politics and its top people promoted to those jobs become in jeopardy because of the accidents of politics. I believe that that division must be insisted upon by the Civil Service. Never let anybody call you political regardless of the intensity of your political feelings in favor of any one party or in favor of any one personality.

You are an organism that serves your country, America and Canada, and it must never be said that you serve Republicans or Democrats or similar parties in any other country.

Our own Civil Service, happily, has a very fine reputation in this regard. But it is one that politicians of any party will violate either unknowingly or in the hope of getting some quick and partisan advantage at times.

You yourselves must be the guardians of that rule, the supporters of that rule, even more than the people who are seeking at times to exploit you or your organization.

Now, my acquaintanceship—my association with—my friendship for—Civil Service is of long standing. I first came for, it seems to me, more or less permanent duty in Washington in 1926—before some of you were born. In all that time I have been intimately associated with members of the Civil Service. All my life I have been associated with people in the military service. And I think I can say this: Nowhere in the world have I met more efficiency, more dedication, more readiness to put in hours without counting them on the clock—indeed, when they were required to report overtime, trying to find ways they can get out of it—than I have among the Civil Service.

My experience with them is one to inspire anyone, to uplift the heart. And I think that my last word before I go, is to ask you people, through all of the Civil Services that you know—well, I haven't had much experience, of course, with local Civil Services—to extend to them my congratulations on the way they have served their country through all their years. I am sure this same observation could be applied to every City, State and County Civil Service in the nation.

I think you are doing a grand work for your country, for the people you represent, by meeting as you do here today, to exchange ideas, to carry back greater faith in this wonderful organization, the Civil Services of our countries.

Thank you very much indeed.

NOTE: The President spoke at a luncheon meeting at the Statler Hotel, Washington, D. C., at 12:30 p. m. His opening words "Mr. Chairman" referred to Albert H. Aronson, President of the Civil Service Assembly.

239 ¶ Memorandum for Arthur S. Flemming,
Director of Defense Mobilization, Concerning the
Distribution of Petroleum Supplies.

October 12, 1956

I APPRECIATE receiving a report from you stating that it would be possible under the authority of the Defense Production Act for the Government to enter into contractual arrangements with United States ship yard owners for the construction of large tankers—up to the total called for by the Government's full emergency requirements—with the understanding that the Government would acquire these tankers in those cases where private ship owners did not purchase them.

I am directing, therefore, that you take steps immediately to bring together representatives of the National Petroleum Council to meet with the Secretary of State, the Secretary of the Treasury, the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of the Interior, and the Secretary of Commerce, to consider plans that will be helpful in assuring the efficiency and adequacy of the distribution of petroleum supplies in the foreseeable future in the free world.

These plans should, so far as the interests of the United States are thereby served, provide for the building in United States ship yards of a sufficient number of large tankers to help supplement existing means of distribution and, if necessary, to help serve as an alternative in the transportation of oil in the free world, particularly from the Middle East. The Government's commitments in these regards should be limited as indicated in the first paragraph above. In addition, the Federal Government might, whenever necessary, provide funds for rehabilitation and modification of American ship yards so long as these projects can be undertaken on a self-liquidating basis.

The study should proceed, of course, on the assumption that plans which are developed are to be consistent with the requests

that you have made to oil importers to voluntarily keep imports of crude oil into this country at a level where they do not exceed significantly the proportion that imports bore to the production of domestic crude oil in 1954.

The results of these deliberations should be reported to me as soon as practicable.

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

NOTE: On November 30, 1956, the White House announced that the President had authorized the ODM Director to request the Secretary of the Interior to permit the United States petroleum industry to coordinate its efforts to assist in handling the oil supply problem resulting from the closing of the Suez Canal and some pipelines in the Middle East.

The release stated that "the United States desires to cooperate as fully as possible in lessening the effects of the present situation in both producing and consuming countries. The contemplated coordination of industry efforts will insure the most efficient use of tankers and the maximum availability of petroleum products."

240 ¶ Statement by the President on the Death of J. Percy Priest. *October 12, 1956*

THE CONGRESS of the United States and the people of the nation have lost a valuable member in the sudden passing of J. Percy Priest of Tennessee, Majority Whip of the House of Representatives. A former teacher and newspaperman, Congressman Priest has served with distinction in the House for sixteen years. Mrs. Eisenhower and I join with his many friends in Washington and the people of his District and State in extending our sympathy to his family.

241 ¶ Television Broadcast: "The People Ask the President." *October 12, 1956*

[Broadcast from the Sheraton-Park Hotel, Washington, D. C.]

THE PRESIDENT. It is really a great privilege to welcome you here tonight. I have looked forward for a long time to a chance to talk to a sort of a cross section of America and talk about the things that are on their minds, except those that are on mine, thinking that I know what you are thinking.

Now, I know that among you there are Republicans and Democrats and Independents, and first voters, everything. And I am not going to ask you to vote for anyone, except this I will ask you, the only request: please vote, that is all, please vote.

We will try to run this like a press conference, like we do over in the State, War, Navy Building; you will raise your hand and as quickly as I pick you out you get up and someone will be there with a microphone so that your identification can be heard and your question.

Now before we start I want to do one thing that is more or less normal in my press conference.

I have an announcement. I have got the best announcement that I think I could possibly make to America tonight.

The progress made in the settlement of the Suez dispute this afternoon at the United Nations is most gratifying. Egypt, Britain and France have met, through their foreign ministers, and agreed on a set of principles on which to negotiate; and it looks like here is a very great crisis that is behind us. I don't mean to say that we are completely out of the woods, but I talked to the Secretary of State just before I came over here tonight and I will tell you that in both his heart and mine at least, there is a very great prayer of thanksgiving.

We will go to the first question.

Q. Marshall Beverley: I'm Marshall Beverley of Alexandria, Virginia, a discerning Democrat, one of millions. I nominated

you in Richmond in 1948, at the Virginia Democratic Convention, the first one you were nominated and you did not accept and we were sorry but are still with you now, Mr. President.

Mr. President, the opposition states that you are not in charge of the Government. I say you are. Mr. President, will you tell the Nation who is in charge, sir? [*Laughter*]

THE PRESIDENT. First of all, I must thank you for this persistent loyalty which, I assure you, I most deeply appreciate.

Now, someone asked me a question like that sometime ago. I really believe the people that could give you the best evidence are the people of the Cabinet, the people on my staff, my associates, the people that I have worked with in war and in peace. But I will tell you this, if I am not running the executive part of this Government, then I am the man that is mostly fooled in this Nation. [*Laughter*]

Q. Stephen Frolich: Mr. President, my name is Stephen Frolich. I live in Princeton, New Jersey.

Some people think that I am lucky because I won \$32,000 on one of our quiz programs, the \$64,000 Question, but I think my luckiest day really was June 13, 1953, when I became an American citizen.

My wife, Billie, was here with my children, but my children made so much noise my wife had to take them out. You know how it is. She is from Texas, a native Texan. That is where I met and married her, and that is where I became a citizen.

I don't know whether you can see, Mr. President, but those cuff links are in the shape of Texas. When I became a citizen, my friends in Texas told me it would take me 5 years to become a citizen and another 5 years to become a "native son" down there.

The subject on which I won \$32,000 was on American history. I have made a study of it and during the study I learned a lot, of course, about Presidents and Vice Presidents of this country.

And I think, Mr. President, that you certainly are the man for the job.

I also think, Mr. President, that Vice President Nixon has made a wonderful record for himself when I look into my books and study and compare, and I know that I know a lot about you, Mr. President.

And I have learned a lot about Vice President Nixon, too. I know that he was a Representative and a Senator but there are very many amongst us who do not know very much about the Vice President, so I wonder whether you could tell us what sort of a man Vice President Nixon really is.

THE PRESIDENT. Mr. Nixon is a man of—of course you know he is young. But on top of that Mr. Nixon is a man who studies, informs himself. I have known him of course only since he is Vice President, but I have known his history before that.

He was an officer in the Navy during the war serving on active duty. He came out and served in the Congress and the Senate. In these last 4 years he has been present at every important conference held in Government. He participates in those conferences. He has gone as my representative, I believe, to 32 different countries, or something of that kind, and every one of those countries has sent back wonderful reports about his work in forming new friends for America. He is a man who has matured rapidly, who is, as I see it, one with me in believing in the kind of program that we have placed before the Legislature as representative of this administration's effort to better America.

Q. Edward Kubiske: I am from Detroit, Michigan. I work for Plymouth Motor Car Corporation. I am a member of the American Automobile Workers of America, CIO Local 51.

I for one will vote for you, that is positive. I am not going to be prejudiced to vote otherwise, I am going to vote for you, I have been settled in my mind on that as a result of your past record.

In talking to the fellows at the shop, I have found that there are a lot of them needed enlightening as to your labor record, and your program.

Some fellows feel that the Democratic Party is on their side. I happen to know that you are on their side even more so. I have a record here to prove it, of your accomplishments on labor.

I have also the record here to compare with your record prior to 1952, and there is hardly any comparison.

And I wish, Mr. President, that you would explain and enlighten my buddies back home as to your stand on labor, unions, and the things that they are trying to do.

THE PRESIDENT. Well, first of all, let me say this: I belong to a family of boys who were raised in meager circumstances in central Kansas, and every one of us earned our way as we went along, and it never occurred to us that we were poor, but we were.

My workweek the last year before I went to West Point was 84 hours, 7 nights a week, 12 hours a night, and I thought I had a good job. Now, when I see what unions have done for the working man of America as compared to that record you can well imagine that I don't have to have any doubt in my mind as to what they have done for America as a whole.

Now, there have been, I think, certain defects in the laws. I have recommended, I think it is three times now, changes in the Taft-Hartley Act that I think would be fairer for labor, particularly the one that requires them to take an oath of loyalty, does not require an employer, and also the one that is called—the economic difficulty, you know, about the voting on jurisdictional matters.

Well, none of those have been passed, they have always been stopped and blocked in the Congress. But at the same time we have pushed ahead with many things.

Now it is true that when I recommended the increase in the minimum wage law, in the Congress the opposition put an additional 10 cents for what I thought was the proper, the big thing to do to spread that minimum wage law to get to more people. The higher you raise it before you get a spread, I am afraid it is going to be difficult in getting these fellows who are not under

it yet, these working men and women—it's going to be more difficult. I want more people under it.

In the meantime, wages have been raised and the cost of living has been extraordinarily stable in the last 3 years. It is true that you can say technically the cost of living is high. It has gone up 2½ percent since we have been in, but it went up 45 percent or more in the last 7 years of the preceding administration.

So that all in all, the workman has been improving his unions and strength, and he has been improving his pay, he has been improving in every single thing, social security, unemployment insurance, and we have supported those things. So I believe that if the laboring man today—and that really should include all America when you come down to it, we all ought to be laboring for our living and most of us do—if they will look at the record, I think they will find nothing here that they can say this administration is their enemy; on the contrary, they are good friends.

Q. John Stone: I am John Stone from Watertown, in northern New York State, and with me is my wife, Mrs. Stone.

We are dairy farmers, we operate a 40 milking cow herd. In the Northeast we have recognized the fact that the Federal milk marketing orders have stabilized our markets and we hope they will continue to do so. However, at this time, we wonder what the soil bank, overall soil bank program has to offer to farmers of the Northeast.

THE PRESIDENT. Well, first of all, the orders will continue. That I can assure you.

Secondly, the soil bank program probably doesn't have as direct and marked an influence on you as it does farmers in some other forms of the industry; but if you have any poor cropland, take it out, put it in grass or trees, and you get Government payments for doing so.

And then, of course, we must not forget this: the overall effect of the soil bank is bound to get a better balance among prices and get all prices really moving up into the levels that they should

be to be equal on the cost-price ratio, to all other costs and prices in the Nation. That is what will help you in the overall way.

Q. Mrs. B. B. Jackson: I am from Dallas, Texas. This is my son, Boris III. He is 18 years of age, and a student at Southern Methodist University. As a mother, I am vitally interested in the draft issue. Stevenson says we do not need the draft. You say we do. Mr. President, will you tell us your reasons for our need of the draft?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, there are a number of reasons.

First of all, as of now, our strength that we have to maintain on the very finest military advice that we can get in this world, because there are no better soldiers, sailors, and airmen than the United States possesses, is something on the order of three million. Maybe we will get it down a little below that in the foreseeable future, but not too much.

Experience has shown that when we go beyond 1,500,000 you simply cannot get volunteers.

Now to get these additional men we have to have some method that distributes the load properly, evenly and fairly. We try to keep these calls down to the lowest possible number; but without the draft, first of all, we don't even get as many volunteers as we do with it because people volunteer so they can go into the services they want, where they want, and the time they want. But with the draft we do get this job of defending America distributed fairly properly, get people trained so that veterans are not the ones that have to go back into the Army after they have already served so much that they deserve our gratitude.

Now, that is the general reason.

Q. Dr. J. C. Austin: This is Austin from Chicago, pastor of the Pilgrim Baptist Church for over 30 years. I was in the Democrat Party for 20 years, and you brought me out.

There are many fine points of your life and your administration I admire. But one stands out above everything else with me.

My intricate problem as a pastor is that of the homes of my

parishioners, and I find my problem runs throughout the Nation—torn and broken homes.

The beauty of your home, with your wife by your side, helping you go forward, the union of your home, your children, your grandchildren, a real home life, is what America needs as a pattern and as a philosophy.

So I have the feeling that you have good will toward all mankind running out of that kind of a home. It runs over to your neighbors; it runs to foreign nations. And I want to ask, will you be an ambassador of good will to all the homes in America so that we can be one Nation indivisible?

THE PRESIDENT. First of all, sir, I should like to thank you for that talk and I assure you I am speaking also for Mrs. Eisenhower who is watching this program. She will be very, very pleased that you said what you did.

Now, I agree with you, the home is the basis of our civilization. We must do everything we can to make those homes not only places for enjoyment for all of us but places that do establish the moral character that this Nation itself is going to follow, because unless our homes are intact and solid, and we get there when we are young children the standards that we must observe throughout life, well, then, I am afraid, in the long run the Nation will not be as strong as it otherwise could.

Q. Lewis Douglas: I am Lewis Douglas, native of Arizona where I have my permanent home, Mr. President. On four occasions I was elected as a Democrat to represent my State in the Congress and in a very modest way I have tried to serve our country under Democratic administrations.

But I am deeply convinced that your re-election will best serve the interests of the American people.

For more than a quarter of a century there has been an increasingly strong tendency among candidates, Republicans as well as Democrats, to make irresponsible and even reckless statements, to stir up prejudice and bitterness among groups of Americans, to indict the motives and impugn the character of those with whom

they disagree. Mr. President, you have been a wholesome exception to this tendency. I have not agreed with you, sir, on every question, but you have brought to American politics an unusual integrity, a quality of tolerance which encourages harmony and not discord, unity and not division, trust and not distrust, and in the administration of your office, sir, you have arisen above the pettiness of a partisan politician. But more important in the forum of international affairs you speak with an authority which no other American possesses. And in these uncertain times this voice of authority is needed to preserve the peace no matter how uneasy a peace it may be, for an uneasy peace is far better than a cruel war.

Now, I had intended, Mr. President, before your announcement about the course of the discussions about Suez, to ask a question. I had detected in the British press a note of skepticism as to the reliance which could be placed upon the continuity of the policy which we had publicly announced. I wonder, sir, whether you could make any comment.

THE PRESIDENT. Before I answer, let me thank you very, very much for that tremendous compliment you paid me by what you said. I am delighted we called this meeting tonight. There are things going out over the air that really warm my heart.

I would say this about the British misunderstanding of some of our motives. These motives, these purposes, these policies, were formulated at the beginning of this thing. We sat down and we were determined to pursue a course that would not lead to war.

We were certain that negotiation could settle this problem. We of course had this: we don't want to antagonize anybody in this world, because peace must be with justice or, in the long run, it would be no peace. So we want to be just. We certainly wanted to be fair to our great allies in the West. We wanted to be equally fair to all the Arab world.

Now, it has been a hard and weary row; and many sleepless hours as you know, worrisome hours, have gone into this. But it looks at least like we have taken one long step forward, and I

am sure the populations of Europe will begin gradually to understand that the steadfast adherence of this Government to one single policy has borne fruit.

Q. Fred Pelka: Mr. President, my name is Fred Pelka. I come from Depew, New York. I work presently at the Bureau of Naval Personnel in Washington here. I have heard rumors to the effect that instead of becoming General of the Army that there was a chance at one time that you may have become Admiral of the Navy. I wonder if you could explain or elaborate for us a little bit on that point, sir.

THE PRESIDENT. There is now in the Naval Service retired a very great friend of mine who is the first one who informed me in any detail about the two academies. He was my very great friend out in the central Kansas area, and I wanted to go to Annapolis with him because that was where he was going. We went ahead and, frankly, I passed the examinations, and then we discovered that I was too old to go to Annapolis because in those days the ages for the two, the entrance ages, were not the same.

So the Senator gave me a West Point appointment in lieu of the Annapolis one which I sought originally; that is true.

Q. Miss Laddie Zumwalt: I am Laddie Zumwalt. I am 19 years old and a sophomore at the University of Louisville in Louisville, Kentucky.

This November I will be voting in my first presidential election and I feel quite fortunate to be doing so because Kentucky is one of the few States that has an 18-year-old vote. Mr. President, I would like to ask you what do you think about all of the States having an 18-year-old vote?

THE PRESIDENT. Of course you know it is a matter for the States to decide.

I have never said exactly 18. This is what I started out and possibly it is rather thin philosophy, but it was very near and dear to me in the war. Young fellows were coming over and fighting and I said if they are old enough to fight they are old enough to vote.

Now, it is perfectly true that they usually didn't get to Europe and into the fighting lines until they were 19; I possibly had 19 more in mind than 18. But the fact is I do believe when we throw in this modern time these great burdens on the youngsters they ought to have the right to vote. And the only thing they have to do to justify it in my opinion is to go vote. If they will do it and show the example in Kentucky and, I believe, in Georgia that they will do it, I think that others will follow in the same pathway; and I would be delighted.

Q. Mrs. Dorothy Beckley: My name is Dorothy Beckley. I am a native of Detroit, Michigan, but I have lived in Washington, D. C., since 1900. I am a widow, I have three sons aged 28, 25, and 23, and two daughters who are two of my sons' wives, and a grandson 2 years old.

I have been interested in the comment reported in the Washington Post of last Friday which reads, "Adlai attacks GOP Civil Rights Claims," the smaller caption reads, "Harlem speech by candidate challenges foe on racial issue." And then I quote from the exact words of the candidate on the streets of Harlem, "When the President was presented with an opportunity for great national leadership in this field"—he means civil rights—"he was virtually silent." I am referring to the Supreme Court decision on desegregation in the public schools.

Mr. President, I am eager to hear your answer to that.

THE PRESIDENT. Well, while following my custom—I don't answer him directly—I will tell you what I think about it: For many years I have urged that the United States is never going to be completely easy with its conscience until we are according to everyone that equality before the law and that equality and opportunity that is visualized by our Constitution.

All that the Supreme Court decision did was to place or to devise a method by which this would eventually be brought about in our schools.

Now, I have preached through all these years this: this is a

problem that really comes down finally into the heart—as much as it does into the head.

We must get understanding each of the other's view, we must get tolerance, but we must make progress.

I believe, in this one, that violence is to be deplored just as strongly as we know how.

I believe every true American should deplore any violence in it, but I believe every true American does want to see progress proceeding until finally the equality is not only known by all, it's felt by all, right down deep within them.

Now, as you know, we have, I believe, eliminated all of the segregation that I know of, at least, on official terms in Washington. We have tried to eliminate it in all of the Government contracts. We have eliminated it from the services, and so on. We have been pursuing this quietly, not tub-thumping, and we have not tried to claim political credit.

This is a matter of justice, not of anything else. That is the way I see it.

Ladies and gentlemen, I am warned we are running out of time, but I do tell you this: I am going to stay here as long as anyone wants to. If we go off the air, why, all right, but I will stay here because I am thoroughly enjoying this.

Q. Miss Adelaide O'Mara: Miss O'Mara of Brooklyn, New York. I am a stenographer. I want to thank you for your letter that you sent me regarding an ad that I put in the subways in New York City listing the Ten Commandments. I know from your letter that you are a deeply religious man and I know from our papers—we all know from the newspapers our young people lack spiritual guidance.

Could you tell us if we could help in any way to get the spiritual guidance into our schools all over the Nation?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, of course we do have this in our Constitution: the church and the state are not to be brought together; therefore there have been all sorts of rulings that affect the teaching of religion in school. However, I have always felt that the

history of religion ought to be taught, because as a historical fact religion has had the effect with us of giving us the undergirding for our whole system of civilization.

All of the great qualities we find in the Bill of Rights spring right out of our forefathers' statement, men are endowed by their Creator—not by anybody else—by their Creator with certain rights, and those are incorporated in our Bill of Rights. And it seems to me that the history, at least, of religion and its effect on our civilization should be taught. But we are not now, when we are talking moral values, we are not necessarily talking any religion; we are talking honesty and integrity—in Government and in the home, in the school and everywhere in our whole lives. That is really what we are getting at, at the moment, as I see it.

Q. Mrs. Chester Wright: Mr. President, I am Mrs. Chester Wright from Miami, Florida. My husband and I are registered Democrats for Eisenhower; we are retired people. Among our friends in Florida are many retired people, and their main problems are how to augment their income, how to find interesting things to do in their leisure time, and how to meet their health problems in their advancing years. My question is, Mr. President, what does the Federal Government propose to do to aid these retired people?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, they propose to do plenty and are—well, I say are—not plenty, they are doing a lot and they expect to do more. Among other things, you know social security has been extended to many more people in the last couple of years, ten million more. We have gone into special housing programs for the aged. There has been special medical research in the diseases of the aged. There have been special programs started in the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare so that the people that are chronically ill, although not acutely ill, could have proper hospital care or proper care within a hospital center. All of that kind of thing is being done and more will be done. But the great thing is, as I see it, to give them finally the income

on which they can live in self-respect and dignity, even if they don't live quite as actively as they did when they were younger.

Q. Kenneth Mathews: Mr. President, I am Kenneth Mathews, Arlington County, Virginia, an accountant. One of the issues of the 1952 campaign was waste in Government. The Hoover Commission was appointed and I believe it is generally agreed it did a good job; its recommendations were sound. However, only some of the recommendations, a small percentage, have been adopted. My question is, why haven't more of the Hoover committee's recommendations been followed?

THE PRESIDENT. Because primarily, it is this: it is a very slow process to change the administrative habits of a whole Government numbering two and a half million civilian employees. For example, an accounting system that was devised in the Defense Department with the aid of every expert accountant, firms, that could be brought in there—once having been agreed on, the job of just getting that accounting system started in the Defense Department and then spread to the Government they estimated, as I remember, would take 2 years in itself.

Now, this is not to say that a major part of these programs, as they affect the money end of it, have not already been either put into effect or are going into effect; or bills are ready to be put before Congress where legislation is required. Now, there are a few that are rejected because the people in charge feel that the experience of the Commission wasn't quite equaled in that particular point. But in general, I should say that by the time we are done 85 to 95 percent of these recommendations will be adopted.

Q. Comdr. Ovid Foote: Mr. President, I am Ovid Foote, a commander in the Navy, from Falls Church, Virginia.

As we all know, we have had trouble with our overseas housing for all our military personnel, having experience myself, and undoubtedly, you have, too. Right now, we are moving families home because there is no housing for them in some areas. I ask what is going to be done about this situation?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, first of all, Commander, the big thing to do is to get things straightened out so we can bring our troops and our services home and have them stationed at home. That is the best answer to this whole thing.

Maybe we can't bring them all, but—those that do stay—there is never going to cease, as long as I am here, every possible effort to get them decent housing.

The last one, as you know, is this Capehart project which looks like it is going to be a very, very good thing because it will be cheaper and it will give people houses really fit to live in instead of that Wherry housing, which often was way below standard.

Now, as you know, the foreign thing does impose more problems than does the domestic, because there you build something and you may be moving out of it next year. I think, though, as far as our calculations can go as to the permanent garrison needed there, the building will go on, so that this situation will be corrected.

Q. Clarence Frederick: I am Clarence Frederick from Burlington, Wisconsin. I rent a 300-acre farm. Do you consider the large agricultural surplus a farm problem and if so, what do you intend to do about it?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, we have been working on it 3½ years; you bet I consider it a very heavy problem. For example, last year on the operations of the surpluses alone we lost one billion three hundred million—that is, after we bought these surpluses up, what we disposed of last year were sold at one billion three hundred million less than we paid for them. Now, that in itself isn't any great damage to the United States if at the same time that we are paying that kind of money we are reducing those surpluses so that finally market conditions themselves will bring up these prices. Instead of that the surpluses have been building up and up and up, until today we are paying one million dollars every single day, three hundred sixty-five million dollars a year, to store it; and that money is not going into the farmer's pocket. It wouldn't be so bad if it was going into the farmer's pocket. It

isn't, it is just money that is spent for storing this thing in dead storage.

So what we are doing is this: first of all, we are trying to recoup markets, first by encouraging greater and better diets among our own people, because there is the finest place to sell farm products, I assure you—milk programs, lunch programs, education through the services, in the dairy farms and all of that, trying to build up the diet of America.

Next, in the foreign markets we are going everywhere, doing everything we can, taking soft currencies, using those soft currencies in the countries where we get them to do something we think will further the interests of the United States, doing everything possible to cut them down.

And then, of course, the soil bank. The soil bank is brought along to pay for keeping our country for our children, you might say, making sure that it doesn't wash down in the Atlantic Ocean, the Gulf, and the Pacific, so that when our grandchildren come along and the rest of them, they have got a continent to work on, too. So by doing that and paying the farmer something for it so he gets a present income, we are preserving the soil and the water and, at the same time, cutting down these surpluses.

Q. Isadore Siegel: My name is Isadore Siegel, I live in the Bronx, New York. I work for David Crystal, 498 Seventh Avenue. We make dresses, skirts, blouses, and we also make sport shirts, Mr. President; I think, Mr. President, you have some of them.

For 25 years I was a member of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union, an independent voter. I voted for you in 1952. I didn't make up my mind yet in this election.

You have a lot of people that are big shots in the Cabinet. I want to ask you, Mr. President, do you think of all the working people alike, like in the big business?

THE PRESIDENT. I said a little while ago something of my own background. How I could ever forget this: people make up America! If you say you are patriotic it means this: you are

not just thinking of the land from Florida to Oregon or from San Diego to Portland, Maine; you are thinking of the people that populate this country. They have something in common with you, pride in their citizenship. That is the most precious thing that anyone can have. Therefore, you or anybody else is just as important to me as any millionaire that ever walked the earth.

Now, I have three or four very successful businessmen in the Cabinet. My friend, the Defense Department is spending something like forty billion dollars a year of our money. Most of that goes into, or a great deal of it, into procurement of things—tanks and planes and guns and ammunition and all of these modern weapons. Who would you rather have in charge of that, some failure that never did anything or a successful businessman? I got the head of the biggest company I could go to, General Motors, and said, “Will you come in and do this for us?” I think he has been doing a good job.

I have got another businessman of that same kind in charge of the Treasury, because he is the kind of man that doesn’t just hoard money, he uses money for the good of America, to build jobs. Why shouldn’t he be a businessman?

There is a businessman in the Commerce Department, a very successful small-business man, jewelry and that kind of thing, a very excellent man. But I have got Jim Mitchell in the Department of Labor, and he is the best Department of Labor man that we have ever had in the history of the whole office.

Now, you go right down through it. We have got lawyers; we have got the Secretary of Agriculture who, I suppose, hasn’t a cent. I am told—he never told me this himself—but he is an elder in the Mormon Church, and I am told they get not a cent from the time they accept that place; their expenses are paid and they don’t get a nickel. That is what I have heard. Anyway, I know he is a poor man.

Now, we have all kinds of people in that Cabinet, and I assure you they are doing one thing—they are working day and night for your benefit and mine.

Q. Mrs. Samuel Harper: I am Mrs. Samuel Harper from Portland, Maine. My husband and I have come down, and I would like to take this opportunity to wish you a very happy birthday. [*Laughter*]

THE PRESIDENT. Thank you very much.

Q. Mrs. Harper: I am a little ahead of time, I know, but I would also like to ask you now, what would you like most for your birthday?

THE PRESIDENT. Mrs. Harper, I've thought about that for some days now, because I have had that question in letters, postcards, notes. I don't know of a single thing in this world, of material character, that could add to my happiness, not a thing.

I do say this: if I could have the best birthday present I could ever have, it would be exactly the same as that of every other American—an assurance that a just peace was on the horizon and coming to us that we were going to enjoy.

Indeed, if I could have a birthday present in a little bit more personal terms, if I could be sure that every individual in America on Sunday, my birthday, would pause for just one second and say, "I am dedicated to peace," one second, I wouldn't care when it was, from midnight to midnight, that would be the best birthday present I could have. [*Applause*]

Q. John E. Medaris: I almost called you General.

The gentleman on my right over there, and your comments in answer to his question, so excited me that I had to say this.

My name is John Medaris, and I live in Montgomery County, Maryland, by the way, and I am what one might call a small-business man. I make an electronic device.

Now, curiously, with all this nonsense about big business and small business, and so forth, I wanted to say this to you, sir: that honestly I don't feel that we could exist without the help of these larger ones.

[*Broadcasting of the program was discontinued at this point. Mr. Medaris continued speaking.*]

We are off the air, so now I can talk. [*Laughter*]

They give credit or, let's say, lenient help, so that with our small financing we can help somebody just a little bit smaller, you see. They are patient, they give us technical assistance which we couldn't afford, and they help a little outfit get solid and dynamic, and finally maybe it would become a bigger one, and then somebody else will argue about it!

I have no question. I just want to say I think everything is wonderful, and it is healthy, and that is it.

THE PRESIDENT. I am glad you said that because every word you say is true. But like all good things abuses can finally come out of it. I think anything that was ever invented by man can be used for good or for evil. Fire, gunpowder, medicines, poison can be used for good or it can be used for evil.

Now, big business at one time in our country got so big that it became the dominant power. It was more powerful in dictating the economic pattern this country was to follow than was the Government—and we got the Sherman Anti-Trust Act.

Now no one will maintain that every part of those laws was always perfect, but in the main they were there to allow the Government to step in and stop mergers and any kind of thing that looked like they were getting ready to squeeze you out rather than to help you. So, I believe the Attorney General told me, in 1955 fifty-four antitrust suits were instituted by the Government. This is the Government's way of making sure we never go over to that other extreme.

We get the benefits of bigness. We get our cheap cars, our cheap radios, our cheap things made in the very finest style and durability that can be gotten. We get them just as efficiently and as rapidly as we can but we do not let them get so big they dominate the rest of us.

Now I am no millionaire and from what you say you are not.

Q. Mr. Medaris: No, of course not.

THE PRESIDENT. So we are trying to keep on the side of keeping these boys from bossing us. [*Applause*]

There is a dinner outside. It is a Citizens-for-Eisenhower dinner that I promised to drop in for just a second on the way home. But I cannot leave here without again thanking you people for taking the time out of your busy lives to come down here and talk these things over.

Frankly I could sit here and talk all night because I learn probably a lot more than you do out of meetings like this. I seek them, and as I say, I do hope I learn.

Thank you, every one of you. I am delighted that you came.

NOTE: The broadcast was presented in the Continental Room of the by the "Citizens for Eisenhower-Sheraton-Park Hotel, Washington, Nixon" organization and originated D. C.

242 ¶ Remarks Following the Television Program on Eve of the President's Birthday. *October 13, 1956*

[Broadcast from the Library in the White House]

MY FRIENDS, I cannot tell you how deeply touched my family and I are tonight to know that Mr. Percy and Miss Dunne have arranged this tremendous party for us. We are grateful to all the entertainers that took part in making this such a wonderful evening.

More than this, we are grateful to every single person who turned out this evening to join in this party for me and for my family.

We are also deeply grateful that so many Americans have signed their names that they are determined to do their duty this fall in determining the course of America, and are going to get their friends to do the same.

I cannot remember any birthday that has been quite so deeply meaningful to me as this one.

I thank all of you—Mr. Percy and Miss Dunne particularly, for being the chairmen of this great evening.

Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 10:30 p. m. from the White House Library at the end of a special half-hour birthday television program arranged by Charles H. Percy and Irene Dunne, co-chairmen of the National Ike Day Committee. Portions of the program originated in Hollywood, Calif., Denison, Tex., Abilene, Kans., New York City, and Washington.

243 ¶ Statement by the President Concerning the First Nuclear-Powered Merchant Ship.

October 15, 1956

I HAVE TODAY directed the Atomic Energy Commission and the Department of Commerce to proceed as rapidly as possible with the design and construction of the first nuclear-powered merchant ship, in accordance with provisions of Public Law 848.

This is a project in which I long have had a deep interest. When I advanced the idea of a nuclear-powered merchant vessel in April of 1955, I stated that the ship “will demonstrate to people everywhere this peacetime use of atomic energy, harnessed for the improvement of human living.”

We have had a nuclear-powered warship since the launching of the submarine “Nautilus” in January 1954. Merchant ship propulsion, however, is as yet unrealized—although it is one of the most promising applications of nuclear energy. Atomic merchant ships will be able to operate on longer runs at higher sustained speeds. They will be able to carry more cargo on long voyages than conventional ships because of the saving in fuel space. They will need less time in port, since they will operate for long periods without refueling.

This new vessel will be a floating laboratory, providing indispensable information for the further application of atomic energy in the field of ocean transportation. The reactor itself will be a

definite step forward in nuclear propulsion. I am confident that the ship will be the forerunner of atomic merchant and passenger fleets which one day will unite the nations of the world in peaceful trade.

I should like to emphasize that the ship's reactor design will not be secret. The reactor will be built on an unclassified basis. It will be possible for engineers not only of our own country, but of other nations, to view the nuclear power plant and see at first hand this demonstration of the great promise of atomic energy for human betterment.

Attached to this statement is a letter from the Secretary of Commerce and the Chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission which contains a description of the ship.

The Atomic Energy Commission will furnish the reactor and be responsible for its installation. The Maritime Administration, Department of Commerce, will be responsible for the design and construction of the ship.

NOTE: The letter referred to by the President describes the ship as a combination passenger-cargo carrier intended for about 100 passengers and 12,000 cargo deadweight ton capacity, with a service speed of 21 knots. The reactor would be "a 20,000 horsepower pressurized water reactor of advanced design."

244 ¶ Statement by the President Concerning the Medical Care Program for Dependents of Members of the Uniformed Services. *October 15, 1956*

I HAVE TODAY approved with great satisfaction the directive under which the Military Dependents' Medical Care program will operate beginning December 7, 1956. Prior to this time at least 40 percent of our service families were unable to receive adequate medical care from the Government. This important improvement assures hospital care at all times to the wives and children of active duty personnel. It removes one of the greatest

sources of worry to our servicemen and servicewomen around the world.

A significant new feature of this law authorizes the use of civilian hospitals and facilities for the immediate families of active duty servicemen.

The cost to a service family for hospitalization in any facility, civilian or military, will be limited to a payment of either \$25.00 or an amount equivalent to the subsistence charge of \$1.75 per day, whichever is the greater. For this charge, all hospital services and doctors' fees for the period of hospitalization are covered.

This program also continues the provision for medical care for the dependents of both active and retired personnel in military facilities on a space available basis.

I have been personally interested in this important program since its inception. I feel strongly that this important measure will have a far-reaching effect on service morale at home or on our widely flung posts, ships and bases around the world and thus effectively strengthens the defense of our country.

NOTE: In his opening sentence the President refers to joint regulations of the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare (32 CFR Part 56) under the Dependent's Medical Care Act.

245 ¶ Remarks in the Cabinet Room at a Ceremony Marking the Beginning of the Upper Colorado River Project, Glen Canyon Dam, Arizona. *October 15, 1956*

TODAY WE ARE MARKING the beginning of the actual work on this great storage project. These dams, giant as they are—one of them, I believe, 700 feet and the other 400 feet—are much more than just big masonry projects. We are, first of all, conserving one of our most precious resources: water, to use it where and when it is needed.

As a result of that, all the way down to the Gulf, we will have lands coming into cultivation when they are needed. We will have additional hydro-electric power for the expanding economy of the region; and we will have all sorts of benefits in the added jobs and industry that will spring up from these structures.

The project itself is a good example of one phase of the partnership principle which this Administration believes in as applying to the conservation of resources. It happens to be one of those that is too far-reaching in its effect, too gigantic in size, to be handled by local authorities and local resources. And so the government gladly steps in, glad to do it.

So, you see, in every way I am delighted to be here to participate in this ceremony, as I know you people are.

I am told that when I press this button, there are going to be 500 tons of earth go in the air—and rock—and I assume that you are all safely protected from any effects of that.

Now, are you about ready, out there, Arthur, for me to do the rest of this?

All right, Arthur, this is a pleasure. Here we go. [*Pressing the button.*]

The work ought to be now started.

How high did the highest rock go that you saw?

All right, Arthur. Congratulations to everybody there. My best wishes to everybody and I hope the construction people run into nothing but good luck all the way through.

Goodbye—goodbye.

NOTE: During the ceremony the U. S. Senator from Utah, who was President was conversing by telephone with Arthur V. Watkins, at the site of the project.

246 ¶ Remarks Inaugurating the “Your Government and You” Five-Minute Broadcasts.

October 15, 1956

[Recorded on film for telecasting at 9:25 and 10:25 p. m.]

THE NEXT three weeks are vitally important to every man, woman and child in the United States. On November sixth, you will decide, by your votes, how you will live, work and prosper during the next four years.

You, as voters, will make this decision for yourselves and for your children—and, perhaps, for generations yet to come.

On your decision will depend whether this country will go forward with peace, security and prosperity.

To help you arrive at it, your Administration in Washington will try diligently through the next three weeks to explain its record of achievements, the problems before it and the policies by which it proposes to solve them.

I think the men best qualified to tell you what we have tried to do and what we honestly believe we have accomplished, are the men who have headed the great Departments of Government where this Administration has built its record in office during the last three and one-half years.

So, under the general title—“Your Government and You”—some of the leading members of the Administration will speak to you in your homes of what they have done and are doing for your happiness and well-being.

You will hear your Secretary of State, John Foster Dulles, tell of the spirit that impels us in achieving peace and the record we have made as a Nation in our united effort for peace.

You will hear your Secretary of the Treasury, George Humphrey, tell how his department has checked the galloping inflation, cut taxes, balanced the budget and reduced the debt.

You will hear your Secretary of Defense, Charles E. Wilson, tell how we have saved billions of dollars on the Armed Forces,

reduced our manpower requirements and still provided a more secure defense.

You will hear your Secretary of Labor, James Mitchell, tell how employment, wages and income have reached the highest levels in history.

You will hear your Attorney-General, the Secretary of our new Department of Health, Education and Welfare, and other Cabinet officers tell what we have done to combat monopoly, to extend social security for 70 million Americans, and other accomplishments of this Republican Administration.

I am proud of the record and I think you will be proud of it, too. So let me ask you one thing. Whenever you can, listen to this series and talk the facts over with your family and friends. Then make up your mind as to how *you* will vote on November sixth.

I for one—and all who work with me—will be happy to rest our case on your honest judgment.

247 ¶ Remarks Upon Arrival in Minneapolis, Minnesota. *October 16, 1956*

THANK YOU. Thank you very much for coming out. You could not pay anyone a greater compliment than just to come out and meet him with such a bright face. It looks to me like I haven't seen quite as much happiness in a long time—and you don't know how good that makes me feel.

I am here for just a couple of hours, and I am going to stop in St. Paul, Minnesota. I am going to try to see as many people as I can, and then I will be on my way.

But I want you to know this: Every time I come back to Minnesota, I feel like I am coming back to friends. Never have I run into anything here except the greatest of kindness, hospitality and cordiality.

And I will tell you this: My Mamie and I both like it.
Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at the Wold-Chamberlain Airport at 11:10 a. m.

248 ¶ Letter to the President of the Senate and to
the Speaker of the House of Representatives
Regarding Mutual Security Assistance to
Yugoslavia. *October 16, 1956*

[Released October 16, 1956. Dated October 15, 1956]

Dear Mr. —————:

Section 143 of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended, provides for a suspension of assistance to Yugoslavia as therein specified unless I find and report to the Congress with my reasons therefor: "(1) that there has been no change in the Yugoslavian policies on the basis of which assistance under this Act has been furnished to Yugoslavia in the past, and that Yugoslavia is independent of control by the Soviet Union, (2) that Yugoslavia is not participating in any policy or program for the Communist conquest of the world, and (3) that it is in the interest of the national security of the United States to continue the furnishing of assistance to Yugoslavia under this Act."

After careful study and examination of all the relevant facts available to me, I hereby find and report to the Congress affirmatively with respect to the three matters above mentioned.

My reasons therefor are the following:

1. The policy of assisting Yugoslavia was begun by this Government in 1949. That policy was not based upon approval of, or affinity with, the internal policies of the Government of Yugoslavia. It was undertaken because, despite such internal policies, it was then deemed in the interests of the United States to support the independence of Yugoslavia against a major effort by the

Soviet Union to dominate that country. The balance of available evidence leads me to find that Yugoslavia remains independent of control by the Soviet Union and desires to continue to be independent; that it is still subject to efforts by the Soviet Union to compromise that independence; and that some assistance from the United States continues to be required and is desired by the Government of Yugoslavia to assure the maintenance of its independence.

I am aware of the fact that the designs of the Soviet Union against Yugoslavia are more subtle than heretofore, and that perhaps those designs are not adequately appreciated, or defended against, by Yugoslavia. Nevertheless, there remain the basic factors, i. e., the independence of Yugoslavia; the dedication of Yugoslavia to its independence; and the Soviet endangering of that independence.

2. My finding that Yugoslavia is not participating in any policy or program for Communist conquest of the world is based upon the fact that the ideology and doctrine of the Yugoslav Communist Party appear to adhere to the concept that each nation should determine for itself which kind of a society it wishes and that there should be no interference by one nation in the internal affairs of another.

3. My reason for finding that it is in the interests of the national security of the United States to continue to furnish at least limited assistance to Yugoslavia is that otherwise, in my opinion, there is a danger that Yugoslavia will be unable to maintain its independence. I believe, moreover, that the United States policies inaugurated in 1949 to enable Yugoslavia to maintain its independence remain valid.

This determination on my part meets the statutory requirement in Section 143 regarding the utilization of the public funds allotted to Yugoslavia under the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended, and under prior mutual security legislation. Its primary immediate effect will be to clear the way for conversations with appropriate Yugoslav officials to examine the various pos-

sibilities for bilateral cooperation in the economic field thus made feasible under our laws. In the military field, the various departments of the government have, since the enactment of Section 143 in July of this year, at my direction, followed a policy of permitting only small, routine and long-planned deliveries of equipment. I intend that this attitude, which implies the non-delivery of jet planes and other items of heavy equipment, shall be maintained until the situation can be more accurately appraised during the days to come. I believe, however, that economic aid for the people of Yugoslavia, primarily in the form of foodstuffs, may now prudently and wisely be proceeded with.

In any case, I shall not consider that my action herewith definitely settles the various questions pertaining to United States-Yugoslav relations. These problems will, on the contrary, remain under my constant review, and I have, in addition, directed that those officers who conduct our day-to-day relations with Yugoslavia vigilantly apply the very helpful criteria established by the Congress in Section 143 to ensure that the decision which I have now made remains justified in future circumstances. I have made it clear, furthermore, that my determination is not, even in economic matters, to be taken as a continuing directive necessitating the obligation or expenditure of the funds available for Yugoslavia, regardless of circumstances, but is one which restores discretion in this area to me and my subordinates to take such actions as accord with the applicable national policy relating to Yugoslavia and serve the national interest. Such an approach will, I am sure, serve the foreign policy interests of our country and, at the same time, afford adequate protection against the unwise expenditure of public funds.

Sincerely,

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

NOTE: This is the text of identical Senate, and the Honorable Sam letters addressed to the Honorable Rayburn, Speaker of the House of Richard M. Nixon, President of the Representatives.

249 ¶ Remarks at Rice Park, St. Paul, Minnesota.
October 16, 1956

Mr. Chairman, Senator Thye, the Honorable Ancher Nelsen, whom I hope soon to call Governor—my fellow Americans:

On a day when St. Paul mourns a great citizen—a civic and spiritual leader—I feel that it would be completely improper and unfitting for me to attempt a partisan political speech. Archbishop John Gregory Murray, in his actions and in his words, was a man of principle and high purpose.

Now too easily, in a political campaign, we can get lost in the underbrush of argument and lose sight of the towering trees of purpose and principle.

So I think it is good to take out a few minutes to talk about and to think about America:—

About the great heritage of the past that must be preserved.

About the great enterprise of the present that must be advanced.

About the great vision of the future that must be nourished.

America's greatness, from the very beginning, sprang from spiritual values—from convictions—from a philosophy of life—from a devotion to ideals of human freedom within a society dedicated to the common good.

The mission of America has been—and is—the expansion of individual liberty, self-reliance and personal responsibility within a system where a government—of conscience and of heart—is the servant of every individual, doing for him what he cannot do for himself.

The vision of America is boundless. The American people through their individual dreams and talents and energies create an atmosphere—cultural, political, social, economic—in which the best and most creative qualities of us all can assert themselves.

Out of a heritage of ideals, a mission of freedom, a vision renewed in each generation, has come mighty material prosperity.

But we harm ourselves—and our leadership in the free world—if we become too much occupied with our material blessings. America knows, and may we never forget—that man does not live by bread alone.

We are not a Nation of economic pressure groups—although some may attempt to exploit transient differences into lasting conflicts.

Rather, we are a Republic of free individuals, each working out his own destiny, each making his own contribution in his own way to the common good. At the same time, in the deepest sense, we are a united people, spiritually joined in a tight loyalty to great ideals.

Therein lies the miracle of America.

The Republic has demonstrated that human freedom works.

And it works with a purpose—the purpose of making the world a richer, finer and a nobler place for ourselves and for those who come after us.

As each of us seeks out his road to happiness, this purpose is behind our daily work—whether we are laborers or artists, or businessmen, or farmers, or musicians, or public servants—whatever our calling may be.

This purpose inspires the devotion of more than a million teachers in our public and church and private schools; of our hundreds of thousands of doctors and nurses and ministers of the gospel; of all those of good will who, in unsung contribution, have chosen to give their lives to the unselfish service of their fellows.

This is the America our fathers began and carried forward in their time. This is the America that you have helped build. This is the America that daily you are helping to mold and shape. This is the America that our children must inherit.

Archbishop Murray, certainly, was one of the architects of such an America.

In the light of his and their lives, a political campaign seems a futile exchange of argument unless it produces in those who participate:

First, a rededication to the American heritage of spiritual values.

Next, a revitalization of the American mission of freedom for all men.

A renewal of the American vision that the good of all is the job of all; that the freedom of all is the concern of all; that government for all is government by all.

If we hold steadfast to those purposes, rising above partisan animosity and contrived fears, each of us can aspire to be a builder of peace.

Peace must begin at home and in the community before it broadens out across the continent and embraces the world.

Archbishop Murray, a pastor of his people, a man of peace, worked all his days for those same purposes. Whatever our faith may be, each of us can walk in his spirit to the peaceful profit of our country and of the whole world.

My dear friends, I am more than grateful that you have come out this morning to give me a chance to bring to you a word of welcome from Mamie and me, to thank you for your cordiality, your hospitality, and your welcome—and to say God Bless You.

NOTE: The President spoke at noon. referred to George F. Etzell, Republican National Committeeman.
His opening words "Mr. Chairman"

250 ¶ Remarks at Centennial Plaza, Minneapolis, Minnesota. October 16, 1956

Mr. Chairman, Senator Thye, Congressman Judd, your soon-to-be Governor, Ancher Nelsen, and a brand new Congressman who should tower in some ways over everybody in Washington, George Mikan—my Fellow Americans:

First, let me thank you on behalf of both Mamie and myself for the heartwarming welcome you have given us. We are deeply touched.

Now, ever since I became the Army's Chief of Staff, about eleven years ago, I have been coming regularly to Minnesota and to Minneapolis. Every visit here has been a sort of home-coming, getting back among old and warm friends. And the cordiality of your welcome makes this the best home-coming of all.

I should tell you that, in a very real sense, I am here today—as President—because of you, the people of Minneapolis and of Minnesota.

Back in the spring of 1952, I was scrutinizing prayerfully my duties and responsibilities—trying to resolve my doubts as to whether there was any place or need for me in politics, and to settle in my mind and my conscience what I ought to do. At that time, the write-in vote in the Minnesota Primary moved me far along the road to a final decision. Since that day, I have always felt a special kinship and relationship with you of this city and State.

Now, one of my friends has done outstanding work in high office for you and for me and for America. There is no finer citizen than Ancher Nelsen, who served as the head of the Rural Electrification Administration in Washington in my Administration.

You know, a couple of weeks ago, I read in the paper that down at the Worthington Turkey Day, a national opposition candidate made an erroneous charge against Ancher. I found out later that that man had to publicly eat his words. I think anyone would have a hard time making a false charge stick against Ancher—and you will be prouder still of him and of your State when you elect him Governor.

Now, in the brief visit I am to have with you today, I want to talk for a few minutes about agriculture. This is especially appropriate in this State, where on the Republican side your Senior United States Senator, your next Governor, and your State Chairman, John Hartwell, are all honest-to-goodness farmers. And right here I want to add that I hope you good people of Minne-

sota will return all your Republican Congressmen, and increase their number.

What I have to say is in this spirit: I want full justice for all farmers, because they are inseparable from—and indispensable to—a truly prospering America, and everything I do seeks to assure full justice and fairness for all the American people. I am equally dedicated to the needs and aspirations of labor, of business, of education, of the professions—not because they are specialized groups—nor voting blocs to be pitted against one another—but because they all have vital, functioning roles in the harmony of our free society.

In this spirit, I seek—and I shall continue to seek—to assure our farm families their full share of our nation's unparalleled prosperity today.

Now, in talking about agriculture, I realize that I am talking in a great City. But you here in this City, here in the heartland of American agriculture—each of you realizes that we cannot have lasting prosperity in our cities without the same prosperity on our farms.

In recent weeks you have heard some others talking about farming, in this State and in this City. From what I've read of some of their statements I am sure that if some of these men drove a tractor like they talk, they would have a mighty tough time driving a straight furrow!

It is certainly not straight talk to say that our farmers would be better off to return to the programs that caused surpluses to pile up and prices to go down.

The record on this is clear.

From World War II until last year, rigid wartime price supports induced the farmer to grow more of certain crops than he could sell and choked off much of his foreign market. Huge surpluses built up. Prices went down.

Rigid supports did not cause high farm income. Wars—with their high demand—did that. When wars were ended—and even before—prices started down. And as I have remarked

before, it really takes genius to drive prices down when you have got a war on. Yet they did go down in 1952 while the Korean War was in full swing.

So by the time this Administration took office—almost four years ago now—the whole farm economy was seriously threatened.

Recognizing this difficulty, and particularly that there is no such thing as *a* farm problem, rather a multitude of them, we began personal meetings in Washington with farm leaders. We got representatives of the Farm Bureau, the Farmers Union, and the Grange. We got people from the great Land Grant Colleges of the United States. We got practical dirt farmers, and we had conference after conference. We had them with the Cabinet officers, with your Congressmen, with whole farm families coming down. And out of this, we constructed a farm program.

We proposed legislation. Despite delays and opposition, we got sizable parts through. Consequently, this year is the first year since World War II that farm prices have started back up without the tragic help of war. And this, my friends, is the first full year in which the new farm program, worked out by this Administration in cooperation with the farming community, has been at work.

Now, contrast that with the eight long years—excepting the one Korean War year—when farm prices went down under the old laws.

Here, then, is the plain proof. The new laws work.

Nevertheless, some political orators—no doubt overly excited by the din of a campaign—actually have been saying that I am “against” the little farmer, that I consider the farmer expendable, that I think the family farm is obsolete.

What kind of drivel is this?

The family farm is the cornerstone of American agriculture, just as the family is the cornerstone of our whole society. There is no one among us that needs to be told that if our family life is weakened, likewise our nation shall suffer. In the same way, if the farm family is not to be the center of our concern in this whole

problem of agriculture, then we are indeed shooting wide of the mark.

This Administration has acted to help the family farm in the most concrete ways: Social Security for farm operators; the Federal gas tax refund; the Soil Bank; the most liberal Farm Credit Program in history; the biggest, most creative research program to find new products, new uses for old products, new markets for all products.

And just a word about another Administration effort of which I am very proud: the Rural Development Program. It is a bold, long-range program for lifting the lowest-income people in rural areas by improving their education, skills, credit facilities and earning opportunities. Here in Minnesota three counties—Itasca, Hubbard and Carlton—are among more than fifty pilot counties in the country where this Program is now advancing.

Now that this vital effort, recognizing the special needs of low-income farmers, is well underway, I am determined to bring into the government the best man I can find in this field to devote full time to speeding and perfecting the Program. There are wonderful opportunities for good here. We shall make the most of them.

Now, does this small sampling of Administration measures to benefit family farm people sound like the work of anyone trying to put the family farm out of business?

The fact is: we have made real advances in behalf of the people living on family farms these past four years.

Looking to the future of farming, I think this:

Clearly, we are over the hump. The biggest clean-up job left is to keep up our attack on surpluses until both overproduction and the excess stocks already on hand of certain products have become just a memory.

But even that is not enough: we must keep carrying forward all the solid programs now under way.

I want to state my sincere conviction: I believe that, by any objective yardstick, the future today in agriculture looks better—

more promising—more dependable—than at any time in this generation. Let's keep it going that way.

Now, my friends, I know well that your interests—as is the case with all Americans—are far broader than agriculture.

You want, as I do, clean, honest government—efficient government.

Four years ago I pledged that kind of government. And we have kept that pledge.

You want, as I do, a strong, up-to-date, alert national defense—one that gives you a dollar's worth of defense for each dollar spent.

I pledged you that. And we have kept that pledge.

You want, as I do, a government that, while being prudent in its use of the people's money, remains ever sensitive to all concerns of human welfare.

That pledge, too, we have faithfully kept.

Today our country's good times are rooted in confidence. And one of the reasons for that confidence is simply this: Your government today is one that believes in you. We see no necessity for having a government in Washington that takes the attitude of the benevolent father and tells you what to do all the time, and assures you of prosperity through doing what a bunch of bureaucrats say. We think there can be no government in Washington better than the people that have sent it there.

Finally, my friends, I must speak a word of what is most in the minds and hearts of all of us.

We all know that all these concerns of our national life that I have been discussing have true and lasting value only in the light of our tireless quest of a just and lasting peace.

We have advanced a long way on the road toward that goal.

The peace we enjoy today is, of course, not all that we would wish—nor all that, with God's help, it will one day be. Centuries of mutual hatred among nations, of ancient prejudices and quarrels, cannot be erased in a few short years.

And yet we must ask ourselves: why the anguished cry of some politicians, these days, that we have made no gains whatsoever

toward the peace we seek? The plain truth is that Americans know very well the difference between today—and the days of the Korean casualty lists. And Americans have not forgotten those other milestones—all around the world—on our road to peace: Austria, Trieste, West Germany, Guatemala, Panama, Caracas, Geneva.

All of these have meant some worthy effort to promote that understanding, that common reverence of the spirit of justice that will finally bring to the peoples of the earth a peace in which we can confidently trust.

But are these wailing politicians really trying to bring Americans to believe that our nation's voice is not urging—daily and powerfully—conciliation, mutual understanding and justice? We are doing exactly that in the Suez problem.

Can these politicians believe that Americans are blind to the strength and persistence of our efforts to dedicate the atom not to the destruction but to the constructive service of mankind?

My friends, the simple truth is this: All America is dedicated to peace—a just and lasting peace. This longing in our hearts bears no political label. This longing is not subject to partisanship.

Yet in our labor toward the peace we seek, we must comprehend always its basic requirements, and face up to them manfully.

First: strength—spiritual, intellectual, economic and military strength.

Second: unity—our clear awareness that the road to peace is one that all nations must travel together, else none can do so.

Third: faith—a faith in the greatness of our purpose that inspires in all of us a readiness to work and to sacrifice, that this greatest of all mankind's hopes may one day be realized.

It is to this kind of effort—and in this kind of understanding—that your Administration is pledged.

Today, here in Minnesota, I renew this pledge of continued, determined labor, of the prayerful devotion of myself and all my

associates to this greatest cause of all: peace for the world and America.

Thank you very much indeed.

NOTE: The President spoke at 1:00 p. m. His opening words "Mr. Chairman" referred to George F. Etzell, Republican National Committee.

251 ¶ Address at a Rally in the Civic Auditorium, Seattle, Washington. *October 17, 1956*

Mr. Chairman, Governor Langlie—and here I want to extend a very special greeting to the great array of relatives I have, scattered over the great Evergreen State, and I want to say to all the members of the Stover and Lucas families, I am very sorry that we couldn't have a tribal convocation on this visit.

Now, this being a political gathering, I think it is not amiss for me to express some of the political hopes I have for this State this fall—this November. For example, I hope sincerely that you advance your Lieutenant Governor, Mr. Anderson, to the Governor's chair. And I hope you will return to the Congress of the United States one of the finest Republican delegations we have there, and add to it a Congressman-at-Large, which will make it perfect.

And I would sincerely hope that you will find it possible to send to the United States Senate my good friend Arthur Langlie. His great personal integrity, his devotion to public service are well known throughout this whole country, and I assure you he would be the greatest help to me and to the Administration in developing the remaining parts of the legislative program that we believe would advance the best interests of this country, both at home and abroad.

And now, my Fellow Citizens:

Your welcome here in the Northwest makes me feel wonderful.

Perhaps I should put that another way: your welcome reminds me of how wonderful I have been feeling for quite some time now.

For me, there has been something truly notable and forever memorable about the last few weeks. It has been an exciting experience—travelling across this nation of ours. There is nothing more exciting than America itself—what it consistently achieves, what it eternally stands for.

Yet, beyond this truth, I have been seeing everywhere the signs of a vigorous and dynamic people at work.

I have seen the smoky fury of our factories—rising to the skies, and proclaiming to the world that 66 million American workers are more prosperous and secure than ever in our history.

I have seen a farm economy strengthened—and farmers, at last, encouraged—by the knowledge that realistic farm programs are finally at work. They know, these farmers, that these programs are no longer the crude creations of political expediency. They know that the farmer himself is no longer to be insulted as a commodity for which our parties make competitive bids in the political market.

I have seen our cities and towns—where more homes have been built in these last three and one-half years than in any like period in the nation's history. In those same cities and towns, your government constantly presses forward its attack on slums and blighted neighborhoods.

And there are other great things that I have had no need to see—for I know them. I mean—the blasting and the scraping of the earth to open the great St. Lawrence Seaway, bringing the commerce of the world to the heartland of America. I mean also, conservation projects. Just day before yesterday, I pushed a button that started actual work on the Upper Colorado storage project, a mighty work that when completed will add incalculably to America's strength and prosperity. I mean—the roaring of Diesel engines and the pouring of concrete for thousands upon thousands of miles of roads—that are about to signal the beginning of the greatest highway program in all our history. And I

mean—the rolling mills, the open hearths, the flaming furnaces—from Buffalo and Pittsburgh to Gary and Birmingham. Everywhere, men—carpenters, bricklayers, machinists and electricians, men at their ledgers and men at their lathes—all are at work, building an America that can be the pride of our fathers, the hope of our children, and the strength of free men everywhere.

Now this, my friends, is what we see.

And yet—and yet in these days of political frenzy—this is not necessarily what we hear. We hear, instead, the angry hum of a locust-swarm of partisan orators. They are singing a strange, sad song—about a feeble and fretful America. Only a few weeks ago, too, they wrote a dark and mournful document—the platform of the opposition. When that document was published, one of the great independent newspapers of this country summed it up thusly: one might have thought, the paper said, that the authors of that platform inhabited some land just lately swept by famine and pestilence.

When I hear such words—when I look at the facts—I wonder one thing. I wonder if the cry of the political opposition is not simply this: things in America are rapidly going from bad—to good.

No—all those grim prophecies of four years ago have not come true. This Administration has not taken “it” away. “It”—the productive power of America—has never been the gift of any political party. “It” could not be “taken away.” “It” only had to be released and encouraged. And this—we have done.

No—there has been no “giveaway.” We have not dismantled the great dams of the Northwest. We are building still more dams—generating still more power—for all the people.

No—our whole nation’s soil and farm lands are not returning to wilderness. They are richer and more productive than ever. And while a few politicians may go on implying that the sagebrush and the prairie dogs are taking over the land, they cannot make the American people believe any such things. You know,

I seriously doubt that they have even been able to convince the prairie dogs.

No—this is not a sick America, but a healthy America—not a weak nation, but a strong one—not a fearful people, but a confident one.

This I have seen with my eyes. This I believe with my heart. This I know in my mind.

II.

My fellow citizens—even though we may smile at much of the partisan oratory of these days, even though we may doubt if much of it was ever worth uttering—yet some of it is worth examining. It is worth examining—not in a spirit of anger—but rather in a spirit of learning.

Now, let students of political science take a few notes.

First: We have had some new examples of an old device—the half-truth.

The opposition spokesmen loudly lament a rise of less than 3 percent in the cost of living over the past three and one-half years. But—they remember not to mention that this cost of living has soared 50 percent, almost, in the last 7 years of their Administration.

They express every American's concern for the plight of our low-income families. But—they are careful not to mention that today's prosperity has reduced the number of such families to an all-time low in America's history.

They sorrow—as any American does—for the trials of any fellow citizen who is unemployed. But—they are careful not to mention that unemployment—now—in September—the latest month on which we have any figures—in September of this year, unemployment had fallen to a rate lower than any peacetime September in their twenty years of political rule.

I think we may leave to the philosophers the question: Is half a truth better than none?

But I believe most Americans would ask: Why not tell the whole truth?

Second: We meet the device of—the hit-and-run statement.

They gave us a stunning example of this when they charged the present Administration with loaning vast sums of money which was later used to build up the personal fortune of an exiled Latin American dictator, they said. They made only one mistake: they were peering into the barrel of their own gun when they pulled the trigger. For it was their Administration that made those loans.

Now, they have fled from that particular scene of this issue—in headlong silence.

They have run out of sight—taking flight, no doubt, far, far down the high, high road.

Third: We meet the political tactic of—the big straddle.

They bravely denounce inflation in the cities—and they go to the countryside with their extravagant promises of the loose credit that makes for inflation.

They promise a stout national defense, or a bold role in world affairs—and they urge us to start planning to stop our military draft.

They promise lower taxes—bigger Government spending on virtually every front—and a nicely balanced budget—all constituting the biggest—and the boldest—three-in-one sale in recent American politics.

It is difficult to see how they can do these things all at once. Now, we have been called the exponents of a middle-of-the-road philosophy, and I admit it. And if these people want to pass us on the left or on the right, that is their political privilege, but how do they expect to pass us on both sides at once?

Now, the fourth, and finally: In this strangely confused course in government that we are taking, we see put to new use the old-fashioned double standard—otherwise known as the rubber yardstick. By this convenient device sense and nonsense become happily confused. Thus:

In 1952 the Republican Party's vigorous internal debate made the Party—we were told by these opponents—a two-headed monster. In 1956, they find us a one-headed monster. We are guilty of the crime of unity.

When Republican spokesmen candidly differ among themselves, our opponents say that we prove that our party lacks true leadership. But when opposition leaders aspiring to the highest office in the land denounce one another as unfit and unqualified for the Presidency—and that, my friends, in terms that we would never dream of using—why, then it's just good, clean, boyish fun. Then, when the former enemies finally embrace in public—they point to the scars they inflicted on one another, as if they were badges of qualification for public office.

In 1952, we were denounced as a probably military-minded, saber-rattling party of war. In 1956—having brought an honorable end to a war we inherited—we are again denounced—now they say we talk too much about peace.

All these things, my friends, I mention in no spirit of anger or outrage. They are simply oddities and curiosities—they are political fables that tell of a political wonderland. It is a land of the opposition's own confused making. And it was this wonderland that the opposition candidate himself was describing—perhaps more truly than he realized—with his recent remark that I am merely fighting “straw men.”

III.

Now, my friends, let us return to the world of reality. Possibly we can do it with a sort of sigh of relief. Here we can survey the scene much more quickly—and more constructively.

I speak now of facts—rare commodities on the political market today.

And I offer you ten clear facts.

(1) Labor today is the biggest—and the best organized—working force in American history; and its share of our national income—70 cents out of every dollar—is the highest it has been

in twenty years. Labor is receiving its highest hourly and weekly wage in all our experience.

(2) Production has surged well beyond the history-making mark of 400 billion dollars a year; and this production-pace will soon be providing 70 million jobs for Americans.

(3) Farm prices this year—the first full year in which this Administration's programs have operated—have begun to rise without the cruel assistance of wartime demands—for the first time—and this is the first time this has happened since World War II.

(4) Conservation, wise use and development of our natural resources, have been put on a sound, long-term partnership basis—enlisting full state, local and private effort alongside massive Federal Government effort.

(5) The menace of inflation has been successfully met for the first time in a generation—as we have achieved, these last three and a half years, the most stable living costs over a like period in twenty years. These remarkably stable living costs, let me explain, are vital—not to great banks or massive corporations—but to all citizens—especially our older people—depending upon fixed income, life insurance, pensions or social security payments.

(6) We have brought to your government—both to its fiscal policies and to its whole operation—qualities long absent and badly needed—consistency and integrity.

(7) We have helped to advance the cause of civil rights with human understanding, with reason and with consideration. We have acted on the sound principle of talking less and doing more. This Administration has erased all vestiges of segregation in all areas clearly within the authority of the Federal government—and this for the first time in our history.

(8) Social security has been extended in coverage—and its benefits increased—to give to tens of millions of citizens the greatest promise and protection they have ever known.

(9) Our national defense today rests upon the strongest peacetime force—and the strongest deterrent power—that we have

ever possessed. Let us not forget, my friends, we keep defense forces to keep the peace. The only way to win the next world war is to prevent it. This is the principle that guides that great corps of devoted and dedicated military leaders that we have in Washington, as well as every single individual civilian official that has to do with this great subject.

(10) Now we have proven that our quest for peace with justice does not require repetitions of the Korean tragedy to deter further Soviet military aggression. In this quest—our continuing, persistent and most difficult quest—we have achieved one thing perhaps more important than the solution of many local crises. And it is this: we have made known, in ways understood by men everywhere in the world, America's uncompromising devotion to the cause of peace. We have done this at a series of world conferences—rising to the climax of the Summit at Geneva. And we have done this with our repeated and specific proposals for world disarmament—our “open skies” offer of mutual inspection of Soviet and American defenses—and with our program of atoms for peace.

From the very beginning of this Administration, my friends, we have urged all the powers to devote this new nuclear science to man's constructive purposes and not to his destruction. We have asked only that we have safeguards that we can trust as well as others can trust, so that this path of peace toward universal disarmament can be traveled by all. We want to turn nuclear science to the production of power, to assist the doctors in their medical research, to agriculture, to industry, and so on. We simply refuse to do it all alone. Until others do it with us, we are going to stay strong.

There is one old truth I should like to repeat here: it has often been said and said truthfully, that the world must cooperate or in the long run it will perish. That I believe. But I want to bring this point out, my friends: weakness cannot cooperate with anything. All that weakness can do is beg. Strength can cooperate. That is what we intend to do. We will hold out the

hand of friendship to every single nation and people in the world—anyone that will grasp it honestly we will be glad to take them within the circle of our friends.

Now, all these things we have done to serve one steadfast purpose: to lead mankind to dedicate its skills and its strength—no longer to the demands of war—but, at last, to the arts and needs of peace.

IV.

I have stated the record of facts.

I do not believe it needs any added ornament of oratory or exhortation.

I commend it to your scrutiny.

I am confident of your judgment.

Thank you, my friends.

NOTE: The President spoke at 8:00 p. m. On the platform with him, among others, were the Republican State Chairman, George C. Kin-
near, and the Chairman of the King County Central Committee, Joseph C. Lawrence.

252 ¶ Letter to Albert M. Cole, Administrator of Housing and Home Finance Agency, Authorizing Mortgage Purchases Under Special Housing Program for the Elderly. *October 18, 1956*

Dear Mr. Cole:

Pursuant to the authority vested in me by Section 305 of the Federal National Mortgage Association Charter Act, after taking into account (1) the conditions in the building industry and the national economy, and (2) conditions affecting home mortgages insured by the Federal Housing Commissioner, and after determining that such action is in the public interest, I hereby authorize the Federal National Mortgage Association to exercise its

powers to make commitments to purchase and to purchase mortgages, and to enter into commitments to purchase immediate participations (of 20% undivided interests in mortgages) and to make related deferred participation agreements, covering properties qualified under the programs or conditions listed below in the amounts indicated.

Residential properties covered by mortgages insured by the Federal Housing Commissioner pursuant to section 203 and section 207 of the National Housing Act, as amended, which mortgages shall be subject to the Housing for the Elderly amendments set forth in the Housing Act of 1956; provided that the aggregate amount of such purchases and commitments pursuant to this authorization, computed by including the full unpaid principal amounts of the mortgages affected thereby shall not exceed \$20,000,000.

This authorization is in addition to those granted in my letters of January 26 and July 1, 1955.

In order to make funds available for special assistance under the programs or conditions listed above, I hereby increase the funds released in my earlier letters from \$160,000,000 to \$180,000,000 for purchase and commitments of 100 percent interests in such mortgages.

In exercising its powers as authorized herein, the Federal National Mortgage Association shall minimize its expenditures through the use of commitments to purchase immediate participations in mortgages whenever practicable rather than through purchases of 100 percent interests.

Sincerely,

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

NOTE: This letter was released at Portland, Oreg.

253 ¶ Remarks at the College of Puget Sound,
Tacoma, Washington. *October 18, 1956*

Mr. Chairman, Governor Langlie, My friends Jim Stack, Dr. Thompson, the Trustees and Faculty of this University:

In expressing my appreciation to the College of Puget Sound for their great courtesy in allowing us to use this hall, I want to tell you that last evening I spent a great deal of time with two of your alumni, and I learned about your undefeated football team. So I guess it's in order for me to extend felicitations.

I sincerely hope this meeting does not interfere with football practice, because I understand you don't allow rain to do that, you just put on water skis or something like that. At any rate, we are grateful.

My friends, I have come for a neighborly visit. My home for some months was Fort Lewis, and many of my old friends live in this vicinity.

Now, it would be, I think, most un-neighborly to subject you to partisan political talk this morning. Of course, I can express the very great hope that Washington as a State will show the wisdom to elect the straight Republican ticket from Governor Anderson and Governor Langlie on down.

But the few minutes that I ask of your time this morning I want to devote to another subject. I want to say a few words on a subject that I feel presents to all Americans one of the more critical challenges in the years ahead.

This subject is Education.

I have been deeply concerned with this subject for many, many years. As a citizen no less than as your President, I have for long had a number of thoughts, some of which may be worthy of repeating.

I think my first interest in education came out of my contacts with so many young Americans in World War Two. If there is anyone alive that has reason and occasion to testify whenever

he has an opportunity to the virtues of the young American—his courage in adversity, his uncomplaining stamina, his devotion to his country—I certainly am that man.

I have commanded the greatest number of Americans ever assembled under one command. And from them I got nothing but inspiration.

I want to tell you something a little bit more specific about one of these young men, which is possibly not completely typical, but it exemplifies something of the reason I have such an admiration for them.

We attacked across the English Channel into Normandy, and that country is filled with a very difficult type of hedge that grows up on top of mounds. It practically stalled us. Our tanks couldn't go through. We did not know what to do, because every time the tanks started through, they would stick their noses up to the sky and the German guns could shoot through the unprotected underneath portion.

And a little sergeant named Culin showed us how we could put a device on our tanks that would cut right through the banks, the roots of the hedges, and actually it became our own camouflage and we could go right straight through with our tanks.

Moreover, he had the imagination to show us where we could get the material for these "knives" that he fixed on the ends of the tanks, and that was from the German obstacles that they had put on the beaches to stop us coming over.

Now with a young American showing that kind of ingenuity and inventiveness, you have one of the reasons why I think so much of young America. Incidentally, Sergeant Culin certainly saved many thousands of American lives.

I believe, for one thing, that education, in its full sense, can never be narrowed to simply a function of government. School stands beside church and home as a life-giving institution in its own right. It is no mere creature of legislative fiat and executive order. It is a place where the spirit and the intelligence of a whole people must act and must rule.

To act wisely and effectively, at this most important time in the history of American education, our people must be alerted, even aroused, to the problems before us. I sometimes wonder whether we really realize how extraordinarily complicated our lives have become—even within the life that has been lived by the youngest of those here present—with radar, the jet airplane, with every kind of terrible bomb that the world can build. We have come to a time when this understanding must be pushed faster. Man's scientific genius seems to have out-raced his own intelligence and judgment in handling the products of his own inventiveness. This is a gap which we must overcome.

I believe that our people are aroused today, and I believe that your government has contributed to this awakening.

Two years ago, I called a great assembly of Americans to examine our educational problems. It was the first such meeting ever called by the Federal government. Men and women from every walk of life met in thousands of communities. As parents, as educators, as neighbors, they studied and judged the issues before them. They passed on their findings to the White House Conference on Education—numbering some 1800 educational and civic leaders. These men and women, in turn, made their recommendations to me. And those recommendations guided my Educational Message to the Congress, calling for a five-year school-building program.

It would be inappropriate to the spirit in which I speak today to argue here the reasons why my requested legislation was not acted on favorably in the Congress. What matters to you—and to me—is this, and to all other Americans:

I shall again call upon the Congress to act at the beginning of the next session, and I shall support this request with all the force at my command. And I shall ask for a program of doing the job that must be done, not in five years, but in four.

By the way, my friends, someone asked me how I could speak so confidently about these recommendations I am going to make, because they said there is still some question about who is going

to be there after January 20th. And I replied this: "Congress meets on January 6th, and I am in until the 20th, and I can say all I have got to say in two weeks, I assure you."

I hold this action to be essential to the welfare of the Republic.

Yet—even passage of this legislation will be only one great forward step in the series of measures that must be taken by the Federal government, by the States and the communities, by our citizens themselves, individually and in groups, to assure that American education—from nursery to graduate school—may meet the needs of our people.

No one Federal law can fully achieve that objective, nor ever relieve a State or a community of its own responsibility. But the Federal government can—and will—help and will lead.

With this leadership, all of us—educators and parents, teachers and professors, students and alumni—can together build an educational system true to the needs of this age and to the aspirations of America.

This—we must remember—is the full sweep and meaning of our purpose. It is nothing less than the preparation of the youth of America for their greatest labors.

First—To be alert and informed citizens, in an age when ignorance or misinformation could bring political catastrophe, an age when the guarding of our nearest communities may ultimately depend upon our knowledge of the most distant lands and peoples.

Second—To be tolerant and sensitive citizens, so that our society may not suffer the moral sickness that is bigotry and may clearly perceive the values and the virtues cherished in other societies.

Third—To be skilled and accomplished citizens, able to grasp the great levers, turn the giant wheels, of this new atomic age, as nature finally surrenders to men so many of its colossal secrets.

Fourth—To be wise and reflective citizens, thankful for the new leisure, promising a new freedom from much toil—not merely to relax in pleasure but to cultivate the mind and to nourish the spirit, to be wholly educated, in the sense that man is a

spiritual and intellectual and physical being. America needs citizens strong in their ideals and spiritual convictions, healthy in their bodies, and tirelessly inquiring in mind.

And finally—To be bold and courageous citizens, knowing that strength and sacrifice are the indispensable, saving weapons of freedom, and knowing that the frontier *in* America, that rules so much of our history, has become in this age the frontier that *is* America—leader of free nations, hope of free men.

Now my friends, as I conceive the educational problem today, it is the job of every single one of us, wherever we may be, whatever we may be doing. When I think of this school and the problems that it has to solve, I realize clearly that it is perfectly helpless unless other factors and parts of our society are doing their part. And first of these, I should say, would be the home. I think it is because of our realization, in accordance with the old saying, "As the twig is bent so will the tree be inclined," that we look to the women of our land to start education properly among all our citizens. We look to them, I think, as the very foundation—the greatest workmen in the field of spiritual development.

We have long—in all civilizations—failed to recognize the true function of women in this regard, and those civilizations have suffered as a result. We have come a long ways in recognizing the equality of women. Unfortunately, in some respects, it is not yet complete. But I firmly believe it will soon be so. Certainly, if the efforts of the Federal government can do anything about it, it will be so.

And they will be—by that much—more inspired to do their part of this great task of developing our newer citizens, because this means developing America.

These young people—I think of them often in this way: Each of them at 21 owns, let us say, sixty years of America, with a decent expectancy.

Maybe I can expect to own five or ten or fifteen, or if I am

lucky, twenty. How much more important it is for them, then, to see that we move forward on this great front of understanding and of knowledge than it is for our elders; how much more important it is for our elders to help them get that start so that their spiritual, their intellectual, their physical health will be equal to the task lying ahead of us.

My friends, I possibly should apologize for talking to you about such a subject, when I know that Dr. Thompson and many of your deans and instructors are so much better qualified.

My excuse is that it lies so close to my heart, and that I have such an unbounded devotion to what we so often call young America.

Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at the Field House at 12:00 noon. With him were Neil Hoff, master of ceremonies, Governor Arthur B. Langlie, James R. Stack, his aide during

World War II, and Dr. R. Franklin Thompson, President of the College. During his remarks the President referred to Sergeant Curtis G. Culin.

254 ¶ Remarks Upon Arrival in Portland, Oregon. *October 18, 1956*

My Fellow Citizens:

It is truly a pleasure to be with you today, and I must thank you, as does Mrs. Eisenhower, for coming out to give us such a cordial greeting.

We have been traveling since Tuesday afternoon, and our hearts have been warmed by this fact: everywhere the United States looks happy. It looks a darn sight happier than it did four years ago.

I don't know of anything more worthwhile than just to see Americans having a good time. You seem to be doing it, and I assure you, we are.

So, if everybody is happy, we will go along, and thank you very much for coming out.

NOTE: The President spoke at the airport at 2:15 p. m.

255 ¶ Remarks to a Group of Republican Workers in the Civic Auditorium, Portland, Oregon. *October 18, 1956*

Mr. Chairman, Governor McKay, and My Friends:

I have been in a state of confusion ever since I stepped my foot off that plane. They said it was bad weather down here and that there would be no one along the route—and what voice I have had has been left out there, and my eyes are full of confetti and I think my ears and my clothes are.

I have been overwhelmed by your welcome.

Then they said, “Won’t you stop at the auditorium just for a few moments because there are a few Republican workers there that we want you to say Hello to.”

Now, if this great audience is made up just of Republican workers, I’ll tell you: we’re in! Oregon will go right once again.

My friends, there are a dozen things I could talk to you about today. As a matter of fact, I have been poring for the last few days over manuscripts of what I am going to say tonight. But, as of now, I think I will just wander around a little bit and tell you a few things that seem important to me. It won’t be a speech, but maybe it will give you an idea here and there that will help you in your work as you get Oregon’s voters to the polls on November 6th.

First of all, regarding public office, I have had a good many years’ experience in selecting people for positions in government—for many years in the military, and since then in civil office. As you do that, you get to pondering in your mind, what

is the first thing you want? Men and women have different qualifications. Some are brilliant, some are plodders—some are very personable. What is the first quality you look for? I would say, possibly, in military life and civil life it is not exactly the same. But in this political business, my friends, I commend to you one quality: honesty. Just plain, ordinary honesty. Plain, ordinary integrity—intellectual honesty—honesty with the people—honesty in pursuing your pledged word just as hard as you know how to do it.

I remember, many years ago, Carter Glass in his prime was asked to Yale University where he received an honorary degree, and in giving him this very flattering commendation, they read off this long commendation, and through it the word “honesty” was repeated several times. And he got up and said, “I rather despair of the Republic if we are getting to the place where you have to reward a man for being honest.”

Now, I don’t think honesty is so rare that you have to pin a big medal on him in any walk of life, but I do insist over and over again: put someone in public office upon whose word you can depend.

I therefore bring this name to you in that connection: Douglas McKay.

Of course, I have not known him nearly as long as many of you in this audience, but I saw him under these special conditions, where on a meeting of the minds on a difficult subject, no matter what it was, each one bringing in his opinion, his conviction, on what should be done—and I shall always testify to this—to Douglas McKay, he never pulled his punches on what he believed. What he believed to be right, that was what was done as far as his recommendations were concerned.

Now, I don’t know some of your other candidates for office in this State as well as I do Douglas McKay, but I can say this: If they are running on the same team with him, I am about ready to write my name under there and say “I think he’ll do. He’s a good one.”

So then, if we have that as the first quality—we want honesty—we want, then, someone who represents for us—people that send him there—the kind of thinking with respect to government that is at the bottom of our political philosophy.

In general, I think you could define the Republican Party in its management of the domestic affairs of our country, so far as government affects them, along this line:

We believe, first, in fiscal integrity. Consequently we believe in the sound dollar, the dollar that when you come around to start living on your pension or social security will be worth every cent that you are now putting into it. That is the kind of dollar we want.

If we are going to do that, we have to keep income and outgo in the government level; and in order, therefore, to avoid heavily taxing the people, we must keep governmental expenditures as low as it is possible for us to do and to carry on the functions expected of the government. That is the second.

And the third is this; and very important: Keep government as close to the governed as it is humanly possible to do.

By and large, our opponents believe the opposite of these things. They believe in heavier government expenditures; and if it brings about deficits, that is of no moment to them because they believe in what they call the loose credit of the easy dollar. All very well, as long as it doesn't bring about inflation. But inflation is the robber that takes the money out of your pocket, and particularly out of your pensions, your insurance policies and all long-term investments. So we won't have that. And they believe in that, or at least they practice that.

They believe in centralized government. They say, "We are very wise in Washington, we know how to run this country. Now, you just pay your taxes and do as we say, and everything will be nice."

We say: the power of the United States—the strength of America—is developed only when government releases the illimitable qualifications, capacities and initiative of every individual

citizen, and merely guides them in the direction where the common good will be served.

All of us want peace. There is no American that I know of who would really like to see any kind of war, big or little.

In foreign affairs the problem of decision resolves itself into this: Do we pursue our objectives from a position of strength, dealing with others on a perfectly fair, equitable basis, always holding out the hand of friendship but saying, if you don't want to be friends, we will be the strongest nation in the world.

Now in this kind of thing, there is nothing truculent, there is nothing antagonistic, we simply speak from bitter experience. Thrice in our lifetime—at least in my lifetime—we have seen our country in war.

Why? Because we were too weak for the circumstances of the time. We shall not be that again. We must not be that again.

So we continue to pursue peace through every honorable avenue open to us through conference, whether it be on the ordinary diplomatic level or at the summit at Geneva, or among the Presidents in Panama.

However it is done, we pursue peace with honor and with justice for all. One thing we know: all nations must travel the road of peace, or none can do so. This means peace must be secured by agreement—and agreements and covenants mean we are not afraid to let you look at us, and you are not afraid to let us look at you. That is all we ask. We reject any thought that we will say—and know we are going to keep our word—we will disarm in any respect and it may be you will do so some day. We will do it in unison.

So I think, my friends, when you come to consider your choices in the foreign field, you have to take this criteria probably: hard sense and experience versus pie in the sky promises and wishful thinking. That is the decision there.

Now I had a lot of things—as I was riding down in the plane—I was going to say to this group, and I haven't said a single one of

them yet. As I told you, I left my ideas and everything else I had along that road coming in. It was a joyous road.

But I am going to tell you one story which I have told several times—possibly you have heard it; but it does illustrate the kind of question that a good Republican worker has to be able to answer, or to give an answer to, and very quickly. This is just one of them.

A good Republican worker was walking down the street and he met a man; and he stopped him and said, "My friend, I would like to talk a little politics to you." And he said, "How are you going to vote?"

"Well," he says, "I am going to vote for Stevenson, of course."

Well, that set our Republican friend back on his heels a little bit, but he recovered enough to say, "Would you give me your reasons?"

"Why," he says, "the best in the world. I voted for him four years ago, and everything has been wonderful ever since."

Goodbye.

NOTE: The President spoke at 3:10 p. m. His opening words "Mr. Chairman" referred to Robert Mautz, Republican National Committee man.

256 ¶ Address at the Civic Auditorium in Portland, Oregon. *October 18, 1956*

Mr. Chairman, Governor Smith, Doug McKay, and my Fellow Citizens:

I hope that, this being a political meeting, I first may express something of my personal political expression for Oregon this fall. I would hope very much that you would continue in office Governor Elmo Smith, and give him a solid State ticket. And I surely hope that you will send back to Congress Sam Coon, Harris Ellsworth, and Walter Norblad, and with another Republican, Philip Roth. I would indeed be grateful for that.

Then, of course, I am very hopeful that you will send to the United States Senate my friend, Douglas McKay. I make it clear I don't try to tell anybody how to vote. I simply express what is in my heart and my desires, and he was not only an excellent member of my Cabinet, I found him always an honest, faithful and very independent-minded American. And that is why I like him. It is fun to work with him. It is valuable to work with him.

Now tonight, I want to talk about one thing—and that is the strength of America. I mean: the strength of our free society, the strength of our natural resources, the strength of our power to defend ourselves—and the strength of moral purpose that tells us what we are defending and why.

Obviously, all Americans wish for this strength. But this is my profound conviction: there is one kind of political leadership that knows how to achieve this strength—and one that does not.

I can tell you—quickly—some of the things upon which I believe rests our strength as a people.

I can tell you about this strength by referring to some of the pledges I made to you in 1952—pledges that have been kept.

Above all else, I promised you a government whose strength would be its integrity—for we all know that a government that fails to stir the pride of its own people cannot prove worthy of leadership of the free world. We have kept that pledge.

I promised you a foreign policy that would extend the hand of friendship to all who would grasp it honestly. I promised you a foreign policy that would make sure that no potential enemy, by his doubt of our determination to resist, would make the grave blunder of aggression. And we have kept that pledge.

I promised you a military defense that would be, beyond all peacetime precedent, the best our nation ever had. And today the strongest deterrent power we have ever possessed proves—that we have kept that pledge.

I promised you to encourage a free economy of growth and abundance, shared by all. And today 66 million jobs—the

highest wages in our history—a rising farm income—and the unprecedented strength of organized labor—all prove that we have kept that pledge.

To put the matter in plain political terms—let me indicate some ways this leadership has not pretended to seek strength.

I have not promised you—nor do I ever intend to—that the way to defend peace or freedom is to abandon simultaneously our military draft and our testing of our most advanced military weapons under the circumstances of today's world. For I know—as I believe all Americans know—that, without strength in this world of today, the road to surrender is paved with good intentions.

I have not pretended—nor will I ever—that the way to serve the strength of America—the unity of America—is to appeal to faction and division. For I have always believed that, in the American design, each group may have particular problems, but none has particular privileges; each has special needs, but none has special rights.

I have not promised—nor will I ever—that the way to make the American economy strong is—simultaneously—to lower Federal taxes sharply, to increase Federal spending lavishly, and so to create an economic atmosphere in which inflation again can run riot.

Such a formula, my friends, sounds like the ambitious politician's miracle model budget—bigger on the inside, smaller on the outside.

Now these few instances, my fellow citizens, remind us of one thing true: The strength of America's political life depends—not upon the size of political promises—but the integrity of political purposes.

II.

Let us now see how some of our purposes have—in these last four years—been expressed in deeds.

How have we sought to strengthen the fabric of American society?

Here are a few of the ways:

(1) It took just 81 days after I took the oath of Office to create the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare—the first new department created in 40 years. As a result, for the first time in our history, critical problems of our people's welfare, their education and their health, are met on the same Cabinet level—with the same care—as the greatest issues of world affairs.

(2) We have extended the coverage of Social Security—and increased its benefits—to give tens of millions of citizens the greatest protection they have ever known.

(3) Housing: There have been more new homes built since January 1953 than in any comparable previous period in our history. Today three of every five families in our towns and cities own their own homes—a record without precedent. This year I called for—and Congress enacted—special assistance for housing for older persons.

Just today I authorized the use of 20 million dollars by the Housing agents of the government for purchase of mortgages under this special program for the benefit of our older people.

Now, I know, of course, that the recent decline in homebuilding has hurt the vital lumbering and forest products industries so important to this area. The Administration has already taken steps to increase the flow of credit to homebuyers and homebuilders. And we will take such further steps within our power as are necessary.

(4) In Public Health: We have given Federal assistance for the building of research laboratories, for special medical centers, for developing ways to give more effective care to patients in our mental institutions—all these things for the first time in our history. I am proud of this accomplishment.

(5) In Education: We have shown our awareness that here—the very strength of America's future is at stake. To meet our school problems, I called a national assembly of educators and laymen—the first time that such an action has been taken. And

it was this expert counsel of this great body of educators and laymen that guided our five-year school-building program submitted to the last Congress.

What matters now is not the argument, in terms of partisan politics, as to why Congress failed to enact this needed legislation. What does matter to every American citizen is this fact: I shall call upon the next Congress to enact a school program to make up for the lost year—by doing the job of school-building, not in five years but in four.

In all these fields, then—education, public health, housing, social security—I can say to you today: to meet the challenges that remain, there is such strength in American society as there has never been before.

III.

Our strength assumes one form of special meaning to you people in our great Northwest. For—even as the bounty of our soils and forests, rivers and mines, is one of America's greatest blessings from a generous Providence—this part of America has been singularly favored.

This current political season could have been a time when problems concerning our natural resources might have been accurately stated and seriously debated. We have—instead—been subjected by the political opposition to the senseless, drumbeat charge of—"giveaway." I need say only this: such a frivolous charge is only a feeble echo of the political cry heard four years ago—the cry that we would "give away" or "take away" the whole prosperity of the whole American people.

Why do you suppose we don't hear that cry any more? Because in four years America is happier—wealthier—with its prosperity more widely shared than ever before.

So now I offer you a few, very significant facts.

First—in Conservation and Reclamation. We have sponsored the Pilot Watershed Act, the Soil Bank, the Great Plains Program—while carrying forward one of the largest programs ever

undertaken by the Bureau of Reclamation. In flood control, navigation, and river and harbor projects, we have in these last two years been advancing work on more than 300 undertakings—85 of them entirely new.

If that is “giveaway,” why not let them wail?

Second—in National Parks and Wild Life. Having inherited a declining system of national parks, we have added more than 400,000 acres to our park systems: and we are this year beginning a bold new 10-year program—Mission 66, it is called, as Doug McKay has no doubt told you before often—to expand and improve this system still further. In guarding our wild life—whereas the previous Administration had taken some 400,000 acres out of the wild life areas—we have added 80,000 to them.

Might I say, if that is “giveaway,” let them wail some more!

And third—our Water Resources. Just three days ago from Washington, D. C., I touched off blasts starting work on the great Upper Colorado Project. Covering five States, this is the second largest project of its kind in our history—and a monumental testimony to your government’s awareness of Federal responsibility.

When I touched off the blast for those dams at Glen Canyon and Flaming Gorge the other day, I recalled about four years ago, an opposition spokesman told his listeners, at the Hungry Horse Dam in Montana, to take a good look because they would never see another one built if the Republicans came in.

My friends, he was not the first politician to pole-vault into a ditch.

Now, my friends, with like awareness, we have extended the scope of the Water Facilities Act from 17 to all 48 States, and—in sponsoring the so-called “Small Projects Act”—we have taken one of the greatest forward steps in the history of reclamation in our country.

All these actions to strengthen our natural resources reflect our partnership policy—joining Federal, State, local and private effort in our great common endeavor. Here we have—very deliberately—reversed those practices of the 1930’s and the 1940’s

that meant tight centralization of control in Washington—a virtual Federal monopoly of construction of water and power projects.

What wrongs are there in such a practical Federal monopoly:

It removes initiative and decision far from the people whose own knowledge and self-reliance are the soundest guides to action. It pits region against region in a struggle for favor in Washington. And it inevitably dooms many areas to delay and disappointment, as they are forced to wait while others receive Federal favor.

Our partnership policy is designed to meet great and growing needs. Power requirements for the next ten years will cost some 40 billion dollars. There is not—and there will not be—that much Federal money allotted to be distributed in such a period. Only the partnership program can do the job that must be done—quickly and efficiently.

Now the proofs of this are already here before us. In this Pacific Northwest—there are today under actual construction projects whose power-generating capacity total more than 4 million kilowatts. More than 1 and 1/2 million kilowatts of this capacity is being built entirely by Federal agencies. And the total capacity is the equivalent of eight Bonneville dams.

Finally, my fellow citizens, we meet this momentous fact: the United States today leads the world in the harnessing of our new power—our atomic power—for peacetime use. We have built more atomic reactors—of all types and sizes—than all the rest of the world combined. The first full scale atomic plant for the production of power exclusively for civilian use—the first anywhere in the world—will be in operation next year. More than this, in the years immediately ahead—at least 17 more such plants will be completed.

Thus on every front—from conservation of our ancestral resources, to development of our most modern resources—the same fact is clear: we are building a stronger and stronger America—

to sustain the prosperity we enjoy—and, ultimately, to win the peace we seek.

Now I want to speak a final word about this peace.

I spoke my conviction in my first address of this campaign: This peace embraces all things in our work and in our lives. It does not mean merely stilling of the guns. It means all of those things for which men's hearts long. It means to work in confidence day by day, that you do not live under a threat—a cloud—of war. You can trust your neighbor—your neighboring nation—as you do your neighbor across the backyard fence.

The kind of peace we seek is one that must be reached through this great strength of America—the spiritual, intellectual, military and economic strength.

We use it, not to threaten, not to be truculent, not to be overriding or overbearing. But you say to our neighbor, whether it be now friend or potential enemy: Go along for the peace of mankind, and you will find us your partner.

Now, my friends, such a peace we can possess only as the world does. And the world's hope, in turn, depends upon the strength of our national life, the force of our leadership, the integrity of our government, the daily well-being of our people, and the vigor of our economy, the might of our resources.

All of this strength, I repeat, bundled in together is the force that stands behind the effort toward peace today.

So there remain two great questions.

How do we propose to use this strength to serve the peace we seek?

The answer is—in these clear ways: resolutely to defend ourselves—wisely to warn our enemies—constantly to give hope to the enslaved—prudently to help guard freedom everywhere, and courageously to be worthy of the high commission that history has conferred upon us.

And now I think it would profit us to pause and say: where do we find the ultimate source of this strength?

As we cherish and guard the resources of our people and of nature itself—even as we strengthen the security of our aged and the education of our children—even as we guard jealously and develop tirelessly the riches in our earth—yet we know that the ultimate source of our strength lies beyond, far beyond all these things.

A century ago a wise philosopher—a Frenchman—came to this land seeking the answer to this question—wherein lies the greatness and the genius of America?

I read to you his answer on the eve of our national election—four years ago when I was in Boston. Tonight—here in Portland, as another moment of great national decision nears—I wish to read it to you again.

These are his words:

“I sought for the greatness and genius of America in her commodious harbors and her ample rivers—and it was not there . . . I sought for the greatness and genius of America in her fertile fields and boundless forests—and it was not there . . . I sought for the greatness and genius of America in her democratic congress and her matchless constitution—and it is not there.

“Not until I went into the churches of America and heard her pulpits flame with righteousness—did I understand the secret of her genius and power.

“America is great because America is good—and if America ever ceases to be good—America will cease to be great.”

My fellow citizens, this observation I have always remembered.

This is the truth by which America must ever live—and if she does so, she will grow ever stronger.

Thank you very much, my friends.

NOTE: The President spoke at 7:30 p. m. His opening words “Mr. Mautz, Republican National Committee Chairman” referred to Robert

257 ¶ Remarks on the Aviation Industry, at the Airport, Burbank, California. October 19, 1956

Mr. Gross and members of the Lockheed family:

When I was invited to come here, I realized, of course, that it could not be a political meeting, even though I am on a political tour.

The reason for this conclusion, of course, was I suspected there might be one or two among you that would disagree with me politically. And while, of course, I think they are wrong, they think I am wrong. And I did not want any mental argument to interfere with the true purpose of my visit, which was to come here to thank the Lockheed family.

I have been flying in Constellations for some years. The *Columbine*, which just brought me to the field, is the third ship—the third Constellation of that name—that I have flown.

The columbine, by the way, is the State flower of Colorado—the State where Mamie comes from.

So I will do my politicking tonight in the Hollywood Bowl—this is by way of a commercial, inviting you there. Here I just want to say a word or two on how much the quality and skill of your workmanship, and the excellence of your engineering design, have meant to me.

These three *Columbines* have carried me 225 thousand miles. That is, of course, only a fraction of the distance they have gone in all. The first one was sent to me by the government when I was Commander of SHAPE in Europe. The other two I have used since I have been in my present office.

The present *Columbine*, like the other two, is trustworthy, it is reliable, and above all—for me—it is comfortable, it is a place where I can work. It is roomy and commodious. It is, in fact, a flying White House. I can carry a staff with me and work hours on end.

So you can see that I feel a real debt of gratitude to you people.

Now, through you, I would like also to pay tribute to the great aviation industry of the United States, particularly that portion located here in southern California—such a great and important portion.

This aviation industry was a decisive factor in winning World War Two. In fact, if I may digress a moment, there must be among you many men who were my comrades in World War Two all over the earth—in the Army, Navy and Marine Air Forces—and particularly if there are people here from the old 8th and 9th, and 12th and 15th Air Forces that did so much to bring Hitler to his knees, my special warm greetings and felicitations. Well, it's good to know there are some of you here.

The same way in our civil aviation, southern California, this great aviation industry, is doing so much to keep us in the lead in the world—something that is important to our national security, to the developing and expanding economy that is so absolutely necessary to keep jobs for everybody in this nation, not only the Air Force people and the people that are working in the air industry, but all the rest.

So you, as I see it, are one of the great and essential elements in the country's scheme and plan of national defense. And in this day and time, when we have always with us a recalcitrant Soviet government that will not agree to reasonable propositions for disarmament for bringing a greater confidence to the world, every day in your work, in its quality, in its continuity, you remain one of the greatest factors in our national defense.

So, as I say Thank You for what you have done in the *Columbine*, which means so much to me personally and to my staff and to my family, I say Thank You in a much deeper sense for what you mean to the country.

Your work is the kind that makes America great, and be you Republican or Democrat or Independent, or first voter—I don't care—I thank you from the bottom of my heart.

Goodbye.

NOTE: The President spoke at 10:40 a. m. His opening words "Mr. Board, Lockheed Aircraft Corporation" referred to Robert E. Gross, President and Chairman of the Board, Lockheed Aircraft Corporation.

258 ¶ Address at the Hollywood Bowl, Beverly Hills, California. *October 19, 1956*

Mr. Chairman, Governor Knight, Senator Kuchel, and my fellow Citizens:

This is a political meeting, and I think it is not out of place even for an outsider from your great State, in expressing certain hopes and aspirations about the coming election within your State. I hope, for example, that you will return the entire Republican delegation to the Congress—and add to its number. And I have the earnest hope that Senator Kuchel will come back to the United States Senate.

And I should like to say a special word about my great friend and running mate, Dick Nixon.

There have been many fatuous and foolish and futile attempts to belittle the character of this great American. He is a man who has served his country in war and peace with dedication and with honesty. He is efficient and devoted to his duty. He has performed those duties both here and abroad in exemplary fashion.

I give as my last hope the idea that you—you people who know him best, as I know him well officially—will rally around to see that these futile attempts are scotched just as they should be.

Now, my friends, this is my last stop on this wonderful West Coast, on a journey that, like so many I have made, has carried me across our land. It has been an exciting and an assuring journey. I have seen—on the face of the land and on the faces of the people—a shining thing. It is—in two words—confidence and happiness.

Neither I—nor the hundreds of thousands I have seen—have been the least dismayed by any lingering echoes of a lot of recent,

clamorous partisan oratory. And certainly no one any longer is frightened by that dolorous chant of four years ago, "Don't let them take it away." I hope my friends in Los Angeles may excuse my describing this oratory in one word, a word to which a few of you may be sensitive. This word is—"smog."

Tonight, may I begin by dispelling some of this political smog obscuring and confusing important matters before our nation.

Over-ambitious politicians have made some curious statements about your government. They have charged that it is suffering from a "contagion of corruption."

Now, permit me two observations.

First: I offer a simple suggestion to any leader of the opposition. I suggest that—if I were anxious to win the confidence of the American people and remembering the Washington mess of only four years ago—there is one word that is the last that I would take from out the whole dictionary to use in a political argument—and that word is "corruption." When this word is uttered in any political hall of the opposition, it echoes with a most curious ring. I know why, for I recall an old but grim proverb. It comes from the greatest Spanish novel ever written. And it warns: "Never mention rope—in the house of one who has been hanged."

And now, may I add one very sober statement. I scorn this preposterous accusation—I condemn it as false—because it is a baseless insult to the many men and women associated with me in public service, whom I know and trust. They are men and women who—above and beyond all partisan differences—command the respect of the leadership of both parties of the Congress, and of the entire American people. I say nothing of myself. I am glad to await—with confidence—your judgment upon such charges next November sixth.

Next: in speaking about our free society, these orators with wild abandon have charged that your government has no care at all for the citizen whom they so patronizingly call the "little man."

My fellow citizens, what kind of twisted talk is this? As I have

asked before, what man has earned any right to speak of his neighbor as "the little man"?

We—a free people, cherishing equality for all—have never known, nor will we ever accept, any division of our nation into "little men" and "big men." We do not judge our neighbor, or condemn him, by measuring the frontage of his property, the width of his television screen, or the wheel base of his car. We believe—and we shall go on believing—that man was not created to bear such labels as "big" or "little."

I pledged to you in 1952 that, as President of all the people, my concern would be for all the people.

When we examine seriously how all our citizens have prospered these last years, the facts are clear—the facts are historic. The share of labor in our national income stands at its highest in 20 years. The number of jobs in our economy stands at an all-time high. The average hourly and weekly earnings of our factory workers stand at an all-time high. The number of small businesses today active in our economy stands at an all-time high. And the number of so-called low-income families in our nation—this stands at an all-time low.

Beside this record of remarkable facts there stands an equally remarkable record of governmental action. The problems of the low-income farmer—of our aged—of any unemployed—of those suffering sickness or disability—all these problems have been attacked with the most vigorous and extensive programs in our whole history.

But these politicians achieve new heights either of comedy or of bewilderment when they speak about the shaping—the financing—of America's future.

They promise lower Federal taxes for every citizen, greater Federal spending on virtually every front, and a beautifully balanced Federal budget. I have called this phenomenon what it is: the biggest and most flamboyant three-for-one sale in recent American politics.

Perhaps we should not be too astonished by the politicians who are offering this extraordinary sale. Such sales are the common practice of businesses that expect very soon to go entirely out of business. And, after all, time runs out for these particular men—on November sixth.

II.

There is really only one reason why I think it is worth trying to penetrate a little of this political smog this season. It does enable us, finally, to see some of the true differences and conflicts between their kind of leadership and ours.

We differ sharply—to begin with—in our definition of leadership itself. They, I believe, tend to confuse the thumping of a tub with the voice of the future. And—at their most eloquent—they offer phrases, or promises, that please the ear—but disappoint the intelligence.

We believe that leadership is truly tested not by words but by deeds. And we are sure that this kind of leadership calls for a certain balance of qualifications. Boldness alone is not enough—for this is no time in the world's history for action without reflection. Unrealistic theorizing is not enough—for this is surely no time for leaders of elaborate indecision.

Now—these two kinds of leadership—differ even on a matter of the evidence of our own senses—the kind of America that we see before us today. They profess to see an America divided by factions, feeble in purpose, faltering in strength. We see not a sick America, but a healthy America—a nation of strong will and clear purpose—not a fearful people, but a confident people.

These sweeping differences between us are the sum of clear conflicts between us on most critical matters of principle and policy.

Now, let me be specific.

(1) They are fearful and hesitant about the capacity of our free economy to provide jobs for all. This fear impels them to rely essentially upon Government action to turn the wheels and to lift the levers of our productive power. And so they urge

lavish government spending that can only lead to these things: new deficits, new inflation—renewed wage and price controls to try to cope with that inflation—all of which can result only in increasing centralization of federal power.

Now, we believe quite differently. We have faith in the ability of free Americans to provide jobs for one another. We have faith in the imagination and ingenuity that have advanced the economic frontier of America far beyond the dreams of any other society man has ever known. And we believe that today a people's prosperity proves that we are right.

(2) They, in spite of their protestations, must have little faith in labor—for they seem to put little trust in the free processes of collective bargaining.

We have the confidence that they lack. Trusting the processes of collective bargaining, we have seen organized labor, these past three and one-half years, win the best contracts—the greatest security for workers—in the history of American labor. We have seen the loss of time—as well as of wages—due to strikes fall sharply, and our whole people has gained from this greater industrial peace. There has been no instance, in this Administration, of trying to take over the steel mills.

(3) They show little practical concern for guarding the stability of the dollar. Their record, their platform, even their oratory—all prove this.

We regard a stabilized dollar and stabilized living costs as vital to both prosperity and justice in our society. Our own history shows that those who most severely suffer from inflation are not great banks or colossal corporations—but all our citizens, especially our older people, who depend upon fixed income, life insurance, pensions or Social Security payments.

(4) They believe, apparently, that the cause of civil rights can be advanced by a formula of much oratory and little performance. We have talked less—but we have acted with patience, human understanding, and with concern for the equal standing of all before the law. We have erased segregation in those areas of na-

tional life to which Federal authority clearly extends. So doing in this, my friends, we have neither sought nor claimed partisan credit, and all such actions are nothing more—nothing less than the rendering of justice. And we have always been aware of this great truth: the final battle against intolerance is to be fought—not in the chambers of any legislature—but in the hearts of men.

(5) And finally: they tell us that peace can be guarded—and our nation secured—by a strange new formula. It is this: simultaneously to stop our military draft and to abandon testing of our most advanced military weapons.

Here perhaps, I may be permitted to speak in the first person singular.

I do not believe that any political campaign justifies the declaration of a moratorium on ordinary common sense.

I, both as your President and the Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of the United States of America, cannot and will not tell you that our quest of peace will be cheap and easy. It may be costly—in time, in effort, in expense, and in sacrifice. And any nation unwilling to meet such demands cannot—and will not—lead the free world down the path of peace.

My fellow citizens, we might afford to be tolerant—in an amused sort of way—of the current effort to sell on the domestic front senseless economic panaceas in a political bargain-basement. We cannot be very tolerant of the suggestion that the peace of the world can be bought on the same terms and at the same counter. And the man who today dismisses our military draft as “an incredible waste” is a man who, while I do not question his sincerity, is speaking from incredible folly, or incredible ignorance of war and the causes of war.

My friends, the strength of America, in this world of 1956, means much more than the pride or the power of one nation. It is the hope—and the need—of free men in all the world.

Now you realize, when I talk of the strength of America, I don’t talk merely of the gigantic planes, the tanks, the weapons, the guided missile, the regiments—that is only part of the strength of

America. The strength of America is spiritual, intellectual, economic, and the military is merely a symbol of that strength—a part of that strength.

We talk from stout hearts, from keen analysis of all the factors involved, with readiness to give the other fellow credit for being honest, whenever he is ready to prove his honesty.

We cannot risk the safety of our beloved country on the words of those who have—time and time and time again—broken their solemn pledged word to the whole civilized world.

I say to you that no government seeks the peace of the world—the concord of all nations—the friendship of all peoples—more fervently, more steadfastly, than the present government of the United States.

And I say this to you no less solemnly: until the communists are ready to agree to mutual inspection, bringing the necessary assurance to both sides—to each side—that the other is operating in good faith, we shall seek these goals by staying strong and growing stronger. For a weak nation, my friends, cannot bring hope to its friends. It can only beg mercy from its potential enemies.

But this type of strength, as I have said, is but a symbol and a tool of the real strength of America, which is the determination in our hearts that this land of ours and the institutions that have been passed down to us from our fathers, shall be kept safe and secure from any assault from wherever it may come.

III.

Now, in these times, it is natural enough for me—in my position—to look back to the times, the problems, and the words of our nation's first Republican President.

He asked himself, as you may remember, a question that we, a century later, often ask ourselves: "What constitutes the bulwark of our own liberty and our independence?"

And this was Lincoln's memorable answer:

"It is not our frowning battlements, our bristling seacoasts. Our reliance is the love of liberty which God has planted in us.

Our defense is in the spirit which prizes liberty as the heritage of all men, in all lands, everywhere."

Let us not—with all our talk of super bombs, fire power, air power, intercontinental missiles—let us never forget this truth.

It is this truth that binds us all, firmly and forever, in a common cause—the man who grows rice in Burma—or wheat in Iowa; the man who mines coal in the Ruhr—or in West Virginia; the fisherman off the Bay of Naples—or off the shores of California.

And this is the truth which makes a single, and meaningful sacrifice of those lives which have been given in battle by the French soldier at Verdun, the British Tommy at Dunkirk, the GI in Korea.

Living by this truth—and faithful to all that it may demand of us—we can pray—and dare believe—that the hope of free men, for a world of justice and of law, may one day proudly prevail.

Thank you very much, my friends.

NOTE: The President spoke at 8:30 Chairman" referred to George p. m. His opening words "Mr. Murphy.

259 ¶ Remarks Upon Arrival in Denver, Colorado. *October 20, 1956*

Governor Johnson, Mr. Mayor, Governor Thornton, other distinguished guests, My Friends:

This is by way of a homecoming for Mamie and me. It is not, so far as I am concerned, a political meeting. But I have been on a political trip and so it would be a little out of character if I had not a word to say about the political situation.

The first thing I must say is this: Both Mrs. Eisenhower and I are deeply honored that the Governor should come out to meet us this morning, and I do hope he understands it when I say that he, retiring voluntarily—I want to see him succeeded by Don Brotzman.

Of course, I am very hopeful, and here I couldn't speak with more feeling, that you will be able to send Dan Thornton to the Senate to help us out.

Your Republican delegation in the House, I would like to see all of them come back, and I want to see you add to it. The more the better.

Now, in a way, it's rather a sad thing for Mamie and me to come back here for only a half-hour stay. This is the place that we have so often spent our leaves through our married life, and in late years have even established headquarters in the little White House, which this summer we couldn't do.

This has been a matter of great regret, and had we our own way, we should now stay a week instead of a half-hour. We would like to mingle with old friends, to enjoy your matchless recreation facilities, and to experience again a spell of this wonderful weather which Thornton assures me today is only average.

But, my friends, events rush on us, and there is no time to stay a week today. Things are happening in the world and there is a campaign in progress to decide how this country shall be run the next four years.

So the problem is to go back and to work for what I like to call a people's prosperity, and for the great cause of peace.

The strength of our country must always be our first concern—its spiritual, intellectual, economic, and its military strength. Above all things, it is the concern of each of us living here in the heartland of the United States or its borders, in official life or on a farm—our first concern must be that our country is secure.

But we must remember that that strength is not merely military, it is a many-sided thing, and part of it is the great industrial, productive, economic strength of this great country—a great prosperity widely shared. That has come about and has come on an ascending scale in these last three and a half years, and is one of the things of which we can well be proud, one of the things that we must keep moving in the same direction.

Now, in the work for peace, again, each of us has a job to do, to make certain that our nation stays strong, that we live in the faith of our fathers, that peace can finally be achieved for the world, that we can do our part in right thinking, in working at our daily jobs to convince others in the world that we want none of their property, we don't want to dominate them, we merely want the opportunity for all men who love freedom to have it, to hold it, and to enjoy it.

This is our task, not only for those who are in the Congress and in the State gubernatorial chairs and in the legislatures. All of us—America—must stand together, stand strong and be of one mind if we are, from our position of strength, going to lead really on the road of peace.

One thing on this last trip which is just now ending for me has impressed me mightily. We have been up through the northern country and in Minnesota and into the Northwest and into Portland and Los Angeles and back here; and I am convinced of one thing: America is more prosperous, America is happier, than it was four years ago.

There are those who tell us that we have a false prosperity, that people are fearful. I don't find it. It is true that there are still individuals, there are pockets where prosperity has not reached the heights that it has in the general level, and these must be continuing problems of government and, indeed, of all of us. But over the nation, the prosperity we are sharing today is at a new height, a new level, even for the United States. And out of the confidence that we are progressing slowly, even if tortuously, toward a peace, we see a glow of happiness on people's faces. They are believing something. They are holding a faith.

And I say to you, that kind of faith, and that kind of belief, is the first essential to pushing onward toward peace.

The problems that remain in the world are, of course, staggering. We have only to read our daily newspapers and read the words on Suez where differing opinions between friends of ours bring about a critical situation and require the constant and

earnest attention of all statesmen in order that we may be certain of a peaceful solution.

We read about Poland in our papers, we read about these captive peoples that are still keeping alive the burning desire to live in freedom, a freedom that we have come to take almost for granted, but which they have found is the most difficult thing to sustain in the world. Our hearts go out to them, that they at last may have that opportunity to live under governments of their own choosing.

But I say again to you, no matter how difficult these problems, no matter how frequently they arise, if we do keep our own country strong in all of the ways of which I have spoken, if we keep strong our confidence, and above all our faith in ourselves, our country and our God, we will win through.

Thank you very much, my friends.

NOTE: The President spoke at the Stapleton Airport at 12:15 p. m. His opening words "Governor Johnson," et cetera, referred to Governor

Edwin C. Johnson, of Colorado, Mayor W. F. Nicholson, of Denver, and former Governor Dan Thornton.

260 ¶ Statement by the President on the Reports From Poland. *October 20, 1956*

NUMEROUS REPORTS have been emanating from Poland which indicate ferment and unrest. These are accompanied by stories of Soviet troop movements. I am closely in touch with Secretary Dulles in an effort to ascertain the facts. Naturally, all friends of the Polish people recognize and sympathize with their traditional yearning for liberty and independence.

NOTE: This statement was released at Denver, Colo.

261 ¶ Letter to President Hoover Concerning the Progress Made in Carrying Out the Hoover Commission Recommendations.

October 21, 1956

[Released October 21, 1956. Dated October 15, 1956]

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I have just received and am pleased to send on to you a report on the progress which has been made in carrying out the recommendations of the Second Hoover Commission. It indicates strong support throughout the Executive Branch for the bulk of the recommendations contained in the report.

The Departments and Agencies of the Executive Branch have completed a thoroughgoing study of the recommendations applicable to them, and their comments have been undergoing careful review. During the last few months we have also addressed ourselves to the important task of implementation. I am encouraged by what seems to me to be a satisfactory degree of progress, but obviously a great deal more needs to be done.

A number of the most important recommendations require Congressional action. With bi-partisan support, a modest start was made at the last session of the Congress. I propose to transmit further specific legislative proposals to the next session of the Congress, and I am hopeful that these will receive the whole-hearted bi-partisan support which they merit.

As additional recommendations in the report are put into effect, I am sure that there will be increasing recognition of the great contribution made by your Commission. Your own contribution to the betterment of Government over the years, and particularly through the two Commissions which bore your name and profited by your leadership, has earned the deep appreciation of the Nation as well as my own.

With warm wishes for your continued good health,
Sincerely,

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

NOTE: The report, entitled "Interim Report on the Status of the Hoover Commission Recommendations," is in the form of a memorandum for the President, prepared by Meyer Kestnbaum, Special Assistant to the President. The report notes that of

479 recommendations received, 370 had been acted upon. Of these, 313 (85 percent) had been accepted wholly or in part, and 193 had already been put into effect or would soon be in operation.

262 ¶ Letter to Nikolai Bulganin, Chairman,
Council of Ministers, U. S. S. R.

October 21, 1956

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I have the letter which your Embassy handed me through Secretary Dulles on October nineteenth. I regret to find that this letter departs from accepted international practice in a number of respects.

First, the sending of your note in the midst of a national election campaign of which you take cognizance, expressing your support of the opinions of "certain prominent public figures in the United States" constitutes an interference by a foreign nation in our internal affairs of a kind which, if indulged in by an Ambassador, would lead to his being declared *persona non grata* in accordance with long-established custom.

Second, having delivered a lengthy communication in the Russian language, you have published it before it could be carefully translated and delivered to me. Because of this, and of the necessity of placing the facts accurately before the public, I am compelled to release this reply immediately.

Third, your statement with respect to the Secretary of State is not only unwarranted, but is personally offensive to me.

Fourth, you seem to impugn my own sincerity.

However, I am not instructing the Department of State to return your letter to your Embassy. This is not because I am tolerant of these departures from accepted international practice, but because I still entertain the hope that direct communications between us may serve the cause of peace.

You and I have exchanged a number of letters since our meeting in Geneva on the reduction of armaments and related matters in our effort to make progress toward the goal of peace. I hope that that practice may be resumed in accordance with accepted standards.

The United States has for a long time been intensively examining, evaluating and planning dependable means of stopping the arms race and reducing and controlling armaments. These explorations include the constant examination and evaluation of nuclear tests. To be effective, and not simply a mirage, all these plans require systems of inspection and control, both of which your Government has steadfastly refused to accept. Even my "Open Skies" proposal of mutual aerial inspection, suggested as a first step, you rejected.

However, though disappointed, we are not discouraged. We will continue unrelenting in our efforts to attain these goals. We will close no doors which might open a secure way to serve humanity.

We shall entertain and seriously evaluate all proposals from any source which seem to have merit, and we shall constantly seek for ourselves formulations which might dependably remove the atomic menace.

Sincerely,

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

NOTE: The text of Mr. Bulganin's published in the Department of State letter, dated October 17, 1956, is Bulletin (vol. 35, p. 662).

263 ¶ Telegram to Fred Herman, Chairman,
Small Businessmen for Ike. *October 22, 1956*

[Released October 22, 1956. Dated October 19, 1956]

Mr. Fred A. Herman
Chairman
Small Businessmen for Ike
Rochester, New York

Many thanks for your telegram, expressing the concern of yourself and your associates over campaign misrepresentations of this Administration's program for small businesses in America.

The facts are plain on the record. They confirm the fact that this Administration has done more for small business than any prior administration.

This Administration believes in small business and regards its continued, successful operation as essential to our whole national economy. More than that, this Administration sees it as a way of life for millions upon millions of Americans and as something to be fostered and encouraged.

There are now approximately 4,250,000 independent business units in America—nearly all of them small—an increase of more than one-third since World War II began. This is a larger number of independent business firms, in relation to the size of the Nation's work force, than there were in 1929 or in 1939. And the number is growing rapidly. In 1955, the number of independent businesses increased more than in any year since 1948, when the surge of new business formations following World War II was coming to a close.

Small business is sharing in the prosperity of the American economy. Profits of small manufacturing corporations rose in 1955 and again in 1956.

The overriding objective of all Americans is to establish in the world a just and enduring peace. To gain this objective we must be strong in many ways, including a vigorously expanding civilian

economy, sparked by the incentives that have made America grow.

In the past three and a half years America has enjoyed an unprecedented prosperity. This has offered an economic climate most favorable to the growth of small business. There is a new confidence in the air, among consumers and businessmen, among farmers, workers and investors. Confidence is the prime stimulant for all business activity, small, medium-sized, and large.

To maintain that confidence and to sustain our economic progress we must, among other things, keep steady the newly-won soundness of the dollar. In the years before this Administration assumed office, inflation was robbing every market basket, every old person on a pension, every wage earner, every owner of savings bonds or life insurance or money in the bank. Between 1945–1952 inflation had pushed up the cost of living by 50 percent. But under this Administration's fiscal and monetary policies, the racing course of inflation was stopped. During the last 3½ years, the cost of living has fluctuated within a narrow range—the actual increase since 1952 being less than 3 percent. This Administration will continue to conduct our national affairs so that an owner of a small business can truly say something “is sound as a dollar.”

From this Administration's very first days in office, we in Washington have worked steadily and in many directions to ease the way for small businesses and to improve their opportunity to thrive and grow.

I am glad to set forth in some detail, as you request, this Administration's record and future program—in this field which is of so much concern to each of us—so that you and all Americans will better understand what we have done and propose to do.

First, we created the Small Business Administration, the first independent peace-time agency to devote itself exclusively to matters of interest to small business. This made a central focus for problems inherent in carrying on millions of small free-enterprise undertakings in America.

Second, because these problems cut across the whole area of

Federal activities, we established this year a Cabinet Committee on Small Business to be responsible on a continuing basis for developing policies and getting prompt action.

Within this framework, we have taken positive steps to assist small business in these different ways:

(1) *Taxes*. Several changes in the tax laws have been made in recent years. The excess profits tax was allowed to expire at the end of 1953, thus eliminating a levy that had been especially burdensome on many small, growing companies. The 1954 Tax Revision included measures, some developed in consultation with small business groups, which are of real assistance to small businesses. Some of these measures were: more flexible depreciation allowances; more liberal loss carry-back provisions; fairer treatment of earnings retained in the business to aid its growth and provide more jobs; more liberal tax treatment of research and development expenditures; greater leeway in the redemption of stock to provide funds for death taxes.

(2) *Federal Competition*. By eliminating 234 activities of the Federal Government, which are normally private commercial business, this Administration has increased small business opportunities. The Federal Government is getting out of competition with cobblers, drycleaners, nurserymen, hotel operators, and other small enterprises. To this list will soon be added many additional instances where we will have stopped Federal competition with small business.

(3) *Government Procurement*. During the last three fiscal years, Federal agencies directly awarded to small business concerns contracts totalling \$11.3 billion. This represents 22.2 percent of the total prime contracts awarded by the Federal Government during the period, considerably more than the 19.4 percent share awarded to small business during the fiscal years 1951-1953. Moreover, during the last three fiscal years small business received subcontracts amounting to additional billions.

I was glad to know, for example, that over 400 small business firms are working on the construction at Shippingport, Pennsyl-

vania, of the world's first large-scale atomic plant to make power exclusively for civilian use.

(4) *Government Set-Asides.* This Administration has extended to other large Federal agencies—such as the Veterans' Administration, the General Services Administration, and the Interior, Agriculture, Commerce and Post Office Departments—the set-aside policy which had before applied only to the Department of Defense. Under this policy, certain governmental purchases are set aside for award exclusively to small business concerns.

(5) *Unfair Competition.* More than two years ago a new division was set up in the Federal Trade Commission especially to deal with the problems encountered by small businesses in their efforts to compete effectively with other and larger concerns. During its brief existence this division has already handled over 2400 complaints and requests for advice from small business. Small business also benefits from vigorous enforcement of the anti-trust laws. I am proud to say that the record of such enforcement has never been more strict and effective than under this Administration.

(6) *Financial Assistance.* The Small Business Administration works closely with the nation's banks in assisting reliable small businesses to obtain needed financing not otherwise available. During a period while the demand for credit has increased the volume of commercial bank lending, the Small Business Administration has approved over 8,000 small business and disaster loans totalling nearly a quarter of a billion dollars.

(7) *Management Counseling.* To assist small business, the Small Business Administration and the Commerce Department collect expert information on management problems. Through publications, letters, and direct interviews by hundreds of field agents, they counsel with the owners of small businesses regarding management, procurement, new products, and financing. In particular, they help small firms get on government bidders' lists.

Together with the procurement officers of all Federal Depart-

ments, the Small Business Administration organized 20 conferences in all parts of the country at the outset of the current major buying season. These meetings, which are attended by a very high percentage of small manufacturers in the nearby area, give full information on opportunities to do business with the Federal Government. I understand you personally attended the recent conference in nearby Syracuse on October ninth.

Because this Administration is not content to rest on its record, progressive and sound as it is, we have been moving ahead with the recommendations for future action contained in the recent Progress Report of the Cabinet Committee on Small Business. One of these recommendations is the extension of the term of the Small Business Administration beyond the date of its present statutory expiration. Others are:

(1) *Taxes*—A one-third reduction in the tax on the first \$25,000 of corporation incomes; accelerated depreciation for purchases of used property; an option to an estate consisting largely of investments in closely-held business concerns to pay death taxes over a period up to ten years, in order to avoid disruption of small enterprises; an option to any corporation with few stock holders to be taxed as a partnership. This latter option would enable the owner of a small business to avoid being taxed twice on earnings received from his business.

(2) *Procurement*—a comprehensive review of procurement policies, procedures and legislation, with a view to increasing small business' share in government contracts; steps to encourage greater sub-contracting to small business; and measures to insure that the need for progress payments by a small business concern will not handicap its obtaining a government contract.

(3) *Unfair Competition*—legislation to enable closer scrutiny by the Department of Justice of proposed mergers; and procedural changes in the anti-trust laws to facilitate enforcement.

(4) *Corporate Financing*—to facilitate the issue by small corporations of their securities—raising the existing statutory exemption from S. E. C. registration, from \$300,000 to \$500,000.

(5) *Technological Aid*—developing, in consultation with research experts, programs to keep small business abreast of the rapid advances which research has made in modern technology and of improved and efficient methods of distribution.

(6) *Reports to Government*—to lessen the burden of paperwork on small businesses, simplification of statistical and other reports to government, including wage-reporting for Social Security records and income tax withholding.

I have already put into operation those recommendations of the Cabinet Committee which can be activated by executive direction. The other excellent recommendations must await the next session of the Congress.

I want to thank you and the members of your organization, for this opportunity to discuss the Administration's record. We believe it shows more accomplished, and more underway, for small business than ever before. We pledge to keep moving forward. To build a strong United States tomorrow, we must have today—as a solid foundation—the prosperity of small businesses throughout the nation.

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

NOTE: Mr. Herman's telegram of October 13 informed the President that 300 small-business men in Rochester had formed an organization called "Small Business Men for Ike." He expressed a hope that similar groups would be formed elsewhere as a means of letting the people know what the Administration had done for small business.

264 ¶ Message to President Gronchi Concerning
the Italian Government's Demonstration of Aerial
Photography. *October 23, 1956*

[Released October 23, 1956. Dated October 22, 1956]

*His Excellency
Giovanni Gronchi
President of the Republic of Italy
Rome, Italy*

I have followed with close attention the Italian Government's demonstration last week of the practicability of using modern aircraft as sentinels of peace. The lessons to be learned from your government's demonstration of aerial photography over the City of Rome and other Italian centers will be studied with keen interest by all governments interested in achieving a lasting peace.

I congratulate the Italian Government on this significant initiative directed toward the building of international confidence. It is a valuable contribution to public understanding of one essential element of a meaningful disarmament agreement.

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

265 ¶ Address at the Anniversary Dinner of the
Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners.
October 23, 1956

*President Hutcheson, Dr. Baxter, President Meany, Ladies and
Gentlemen:*

My first word is possibly a little presumptuous, but I would like, for a moment, to speak for all of you in offering felicitations to President and Mrs. Hutcheson on this their 30th wedding anniversary.

And next, I want to say to the Brotherhood, "Happy Birthday." I say this with a bit more than customary enthusiasm, because lately I have been reading so much about my advancing decrepitude and my readiness to slip on the last banana peel, that it is really inspiring to me to see a 75-year-old organization so healthy and strong. It gives me hope that my next nine years may not be completely invalidism.

Before I begin the thoughts that I wanted to express this evening I must remark on the talks of Mr. Meany and Mr. Hutcheson. As I sat here, Mr. Meany so exactly expressed my passionate belief about the position of America in the world—her responsibilities—her opportunities—and the way she should approach those, in the great spirit of freedom and idealism at home.

As I heard both these men tell about their aspirations for our people and for our country, I came to one conclusion: either I belong in their union, or they belong in my Party.

Frankly, I was deeply inspired by the thoughts that I heard expressed by both. Naturally, I am delighted by your General President's report on the state of the country, of its labor unions—and of this great Brotherhood in particular. His statements, founded in fact, are in sharp contrast to some that have been made recently.

Now, by no means do I propose to make this brief appearance before you an opportunity for political exhortation. But before such a body as this, I cannot help mentioning one charge that you in your own experience here recited tonight, refute.

Now, this Administration and I have been described as dedicated solely to furthering the interest of big business.

I want to say that if this is true, they must be highly disappointed in me. It is not true, and I am sure big business would assert we have failed dismally in this alleged mission.

I give you two interesting facts.

During the years 1946 to 1952 inclusive, corporate profits—after taxes—averaged 7.7 percent of the entire national income.

During the period since 1953 when this Administration entered office, corporate profits—after taxes—have averaged 6.0 percent of the national income.

While this has been going on, labor's share in the national income has been rising progressively. It is now 70 percent—the highest in the past twenty years.

Now, I come here tonight, as a friend, to visit with friends. I came here to join you in this great salute to the 75th Anniversary of a great union.

Here we commemorate the establishment of an organization created to further a great American purpose. For individual freedom, rooted in human dignity and in human responsibility, is a theme that runs through the whole story of American labor. And, certainly, it is significant that the First Continental Congress met in Philadelphia's Carpenters' Hall in 1774, and, in that same Hall, the Constitutional Convention assembled thirteen years later.

Now, freedom is not restricted to the fundamental rights of which we so often speak, including freedom of worship, freedom of speech, freedom of assembly.

Your forebears in the labor movement recognized that the industrial revolution had created new problems, requiring a new approach by worker and employer alike—an approach that stressed the equal dignity, the equal responsibility of labor and management.

Consequently, your Brotherhood stands for: Freedom to organize. Freedom to bargain. Freedom to strike. Above all, freedom to vote with complete independence—that was one of the first resolutions, I am told, your Brotherhood called for 75 years ago.

In standing for those things, you help extend the boundaries of human freedom and amplify our concept of them.

Others, men like Marx and Engels, saw in a far different light and different setting the new problems created by the industrial revolution. And they came up with a completely different answer,

substituting for free labor and free management the omnipotent state.

The industrial world is now divided between those who follow the philosophy of freedom and those whose lives are regimented under the philosophy of communism.

A philosophy, like a tree, can best be judged by its fruits. The fruits of our philosophy have been comprehensively and vividly described by your General President. I do not venture to enlarge on his words, but I should like to talk to you briefly on the fruits of communistic imperialism, now daily becoming evident in the satellite world. Let us take one country as an example.

The Poles, as a people, have known freedom.

For that matter, in the persons of Kosciuszko and Pulaski and countless others, they were builders of American freedom. And, by the hundreds of thousands, they helped build industrial America and the free labor movement.

But now for seventeen years, they have been victims of two tyrannies in succession.

Neither tolerated freedom.

And the Polish people rebelled against both, for the love of freedom was and is the strongest mark of Polish character.

A people, like the Poles, who have once known freedom cannot be for always deprived of their national independence and of their personal liberty. That truth applies to every people in Eastern Europe who have enjoyed independence and freedom.

For a time, that truth may be obscured. Tyranny can, for a while, effectively present a false facade of material accomplishment. But that illusion is no substitute for the freedom that men and women cherish from raising their children in family loyalty—choosing their jobs or their friends and associates—to practicing their religious faith without fear.

Eventually, as in the satellites today, the cost proves greater to a once proud and independent people than the value of the

monuments or the factories—or the prisons—that have been erected.

In those lands, the fruits of imperialism are discontent, unrest, riots in one place and demonstrations in another, until the tyranny exercised over them either dissolves or is expelled.

The day of liberation may be postponed where armed forces for a time make protest suicidal. But all history testifies that the memory of freedom is not erased by the fear of guns and the love of freedom is more enduring than the power of tyrants. But it is necessary that the inspiration of freedom, and the benefits enjoyed by those who possess it, are known to those oppressed.

In that light—we, as a nation—have a job to do, a mission as the champion of human freedom. This is it:

First—So to conduct ourselves in all our international relations that we never compromise the fundamental principle that all peoples who have proved themselves capable of self-government have a right to an independent government of their own full, free choice.

Second—So to help those freedom-loving peoples who need and want and can profitably use our aid that they may advance in their ability for self-support and may add strength to the security and peace of the free world.

Third—So to manage our commerce with other nations that we are joined with them in a genuine partnership of trade, fostering a spiral of mutually-shared prosperity and abundance that will be proof against all propaganda and subversion.

Fourth—So to exemplify at home the opportunities, the rewards for work well done—all the good things of a free system—that the world will recognize in human freedom the sure road to human good.

Working in this manner, we shall expand the areas in which free men, free governments can flourish. We shall help shrink the areas in which human beings can be exploited and their governments subverted.

In this mission, none should play a more important role than free American labor. Your whole-hearted support is assurance of success; your indifference, a guarantee of failure.

More than that, you can most persuasively proclaim this mission to the world. And the world will listen. For though you speak with an authentic American voice, whose accent reflects all the working places of America, you speak, too, in international tones—worker to worker.

Above all, in the struggle between the cause of freedom and the cause of communism, you are the living proof that Marx was wrong.

Free American labor has prospered in every index of life—in pocketbook and in schooling, in leisure for recreation and culture, in dignity and in spirit:

Not by engaging in a class war;

Not by abandoning to government freedoms and responsibilities;

Not by surrendering any right or duty of free men for the potage of state guarantees;

But by joining in voluntary association to bargain and to negotiate;

By recognizing that the prosperity of agriculture and industry and labor are inseparably joined;

By demonstrating in factory and union meeting and community that American citizenship, with its freedoms and its obligations, is based on a spiritual faith in the equal dignity and equal rights of all men and women.

Therefore, as an American citizen and as President of the United States, I am proud and happy I can be here this evening to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America.

On its record, the Brotherhood has proved itself a worthy representative of free American labor, a dynamic builder of the free American system.

Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at the Sheraton-Park Hotel, Washington, D. C., at 10:15 p. m. His opening words "President Hutcheson," et cetera, referred to Maurice A. Hutcheson, President of the Brotherhood, Dr. James P. Baxter 3d, President of Williams College, Williamstown, Mass., and George Meany, President of the AFL-CIO.

266 ¶ Statement by the President Reviewing the Government's Policies and Actions With Respect to the Development and Testing of Nuclear Weapons.
October 24, 1956

I HAVE CONCLUDED it to be in the public interest to place before you, the American people—and before the world—a full and explicit review of your Government's policies and actions with respect to the development and testing of nuclear weapons, as these affect our national defense, our efforts toward world disarmament, and our quest of a secure and just peace for all nations.

In this cause of world peace, one truth must never be lost from sight. It is this: the critical issue is not a matter of testing nuclear weapons—but of preventing their use in nuclear war. America has repeatedly stated its readiness, indeed its anxiety, to put all nuclear weapons permanently aside—to stop all tests of such weapons—to devote some of our huge expenditures for armament to the greater cause of mankind's welfare—to do all these things whenever, and as soon as, one basic requirement is met. This requirement is that we, as a nation, and all peoples, know safety from attack.

In this spirit and in this awareness, we as a nation have two tasks. First: we must—and do—seek assiduously to evolve agreements with other nations that will promote trust and understanding among all peoples. Second: at the same time, and until that international trust is firmly secured, we must—and do—make sure that the quality and quantity of our military weapons command

such respect as to dissuade any other nation from the temptation of aggression.

Thus do we develop weapons, not to wage war, but to prevent war.

Only in the clear light of this greater truth can we properly examine the lesser matter of the testing of our nuclear weapons.

On this specific matter, I last week directed the appropriate Departments and Agencies of your Government to submit to me summaries of all relevant facts in their respective areas of responsibility. This record covers the span of the past 11 years—since the first atomic explosion which occurred in a test in New Mexico. It may be pertinent to note that my direct personal concern with these matters extends almost uninterruptedly over these some 11 years—in my successive capacities as Chief of Staff of the Army, Advisor to the Secretary of Defense, Supreme Commander Allied Powers Europe, and, since 1953, as your President and Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces.

This record of your government's policies and actions—insofar as it does not prejudice national security—is herewith made public. It encompasses facts in the several areas of national defense, scientific development, and diplomatic conduct.

This record reflects, clearly and consistently, the persistent, peaceful purposes of our nation.

II.

I deem it proper, in this summary statement, to take note of the most salient points of fact in the accompanying record.

One. Your Government has been unremitting in its efforts to ease the burden of armaments for all the world, to establish effective international control of the testing and use of all nuclear weapons, and to promote international use of atomic energy for the needs and purposes of peace. The manifest evidences of this extend from the beginning of this Administration to the present: (a) my appeal to these specific purposes as early as my address

of April 16, 1953; (b) the offer of "atoms for peace" in December of the same year; (c) the appointment of a Special Assistant for Disarmament, with Cabinet rank, to develop and coordinate our efforts toward disarmament; (d) my offer at the meeting of the Heads of State at Geneva, in July of 1955, for immediate exchange of military blueprints between the United States and the Soviet Union, and mutual air inspection by the "open skies" formula; (e) acceptance of the Soviet proposal for ground-control teams if combined with air inspection; (f) the approval this week of the Statute to govern the International Atomic Energy Agency with 81 nations participating in its peaceful purpose; and (g) our continuing, constructive participation in the work of the U. N. Disarmament Commission.

Facts such as these have given substance and validity to my statement before the United Nations General Assembly on December 8, 1953:

"The United States pledges before you—and therefore before the world—its determination to solve the fearful atomic dilemma—to devote its entire heart and mind to find the way by which the miraculous inventiveness of man shall not be dedicated to his death, but consecrated to his life."

Two. The indispensable principle upon which we have insisted has been the securing of effective safeguards and controls in any program of disarmament. Our readiness to begin disarmament under such safeguards has been affirmed repeatedly during the past three and one-half years. At the Geneva Meeting of Foreign Ministers last autumn, it was specifically reaffirmed by the Secretary of State, with particular reference to nuclear weapons and their testing.

There is only one reason why no safe agreement has been effected to date: the refusal of the Soviet Union to accept any dependable system of mutual safeguards. In the past two years alone, the Soviet Union has rejected no less than 14 American proposals on disarmament and control of nuclear weapons.

Three. In the light of these facts, your Government has kept enlarging its stockpile of nuclear weapons, and has continued its development and testing of the most advanced nuclear weapons. The power of these weapons to deter aggression and to guard world peace could be lost if we failed to hold our superiority in these weapons. And the importance of our strength in this particular weapons-field is sharply accented by the unavoidable fact of our numerical inferiority to Communist manpower.

Four. The continuance of the present rate of H-bomb testing—by the most sober and responsible scientific judgment—does not imperil the health of humanity. On the amount of radioactive fall-out including Strontium 90, resulting from tests, the most authoritative judgment is that of the independent National Academy of Sciences. It reported last June, following a study by 150 scientists of the first rank, that the radiation exposure from all weapons-tests to date—and from continuing tests at the same rate—is, and would be, only a small fraction of the exposure that individuals receive from natural sources and from medical X-rays during their lives.

Five. On the other hand, the continuance of this testing is having two important beneficial results.

(A) The most recent tests enable us to harness and discipline our weapons more precisely and effectively—drastically reducing their fall-out and making them more easy to concentrate, if ever used, upon military objectives. Further progress along this line is confidently expected.

(B) And these same recent tests have helped us to develop—not primarily weapons for vaster destruction—but weapons for defense of our people against any possible enemy attack, as well as knowledge vital to our whole program of civil defense.

Six. There is radio-active fall-out, including Strontium 90, from the testing of all nuclear weapons, of whatever size. But the character of the weapon, as well as its size, determines the fall-out. Such fall-out cannot be avoided—as has been implied—by limit-

ing tests to the smaller nuclear weapons. Such fall-out of Strontium 90 as does take place results from the process of atomic fission. Fission is the basic phenomenon of the smaller weapons. Thus, the idea that we can “stop sending this dangerous material into the air”—by concentrating upon small fission weapons—is based upon apparent unawareness of the facts.

Seven. With reference to the Soviet Union: its sympathy with the idea of stopping H-bomb tests is indisputable. This idea merely reflects the Soviet Union’s repeated insistence, ever since discussion of the Baruch Plan in 1946, that all plans for disarmament be based on simple voluntary agreements. Now, as always, this formula allows for no safeguards, no control, no inspection.

Eight. A simple agreement to stop H-bomb tests cannot be regarded as automatically self-enforcing on the unverified assumption that such tests can instantly and surely be detected. It is true that tests of very large weapons would probably be detected when they occur. We believe that we have detected practically all such tests to date. It is, however, impossible—in view of the vast Soviet land-mass that can screen possible future tests—to have positive assurance of such detection, except in the case of the largest weapons. Nor is it possible to state, immediately following the long-range detection of a test, its size and character.

Nine. If your Government were to suspend research and preparation for tests—as well as the tests themselves—and resume such preparation only upon knowledge that another nation had actually exploded another H-bomb, we could find our present commanding lead in nuclear weapons erased or even reversed. For the preparation for such a test may require up to two years.

Ten. If your Government were to suspend only its tests, while continuing precautionary research and preparation—if that were feasible—we could still suffer a serious military disadvantage. It requires a year or more to organize and effect such tests as those conducted at our proving ground in the Pacific Ocean.

III.

These facts dictate two conclusions.

First. We must continue—until properly safeguarded international agreements can be reached—to develop our strength in the most advanced weapons—for the sake of our own national safety, for the sake of all free nations, for the sake of peace itself.

Second. We must—and we shall—continue to strive ceaselessly to achieve, not the illusion, but the reality of world disarmament. Illusion, in this case, can assume either of two forms. It can mean a reliance upon agreements without safeguards. Or it can be the suggestion that simple suspension of our nuclear tests, without sure knowledge of the actions of others, signifies progress—rather than peril.

There is nothing in post-war history to justify the belief that we should—or that we could even dare—accept anything less than sound safeguards and controls for any disarmament arrangements.

I remain profoundly hopeful that—if we stay strong and steadfast—the reality of significant world disarmament will come to pass.

There is every reason to believe that—if there but be sincerely peaceful purpose on all sides—the nations of the world can achieve and agree upon a system of dependable controls governing disarmament.

We shall never cease striving to this end.

NOTE: Released with this statement were two memorandums entitled “Weapons Tests and Peaceful Uses of the Atom” and “Disarmament

Negotiations.” Both are published in the Department of State Bulletin (vol. 35, p. 706).

267 ¶ Letter to James A. Sheehan, Associate Editor, National Tribune, on the Government's Veterans Program. *October 24, 1956*

[Released October 24, 1956. Dated October 22, 1956]

Dear Mr. Sheehan:

The veterans program of our Federal Government is the finest in the world and it has been largely developed on a bipartisan basis. In war and in peace the Nation is united in gratitude and responsibility to its veterans.

Our veterans and their dependents are receiving efficient service today. Rates of compensation and pension have been increased; nearly 400,000 more veterans and dependents are on the rolls. The best medical care is being provided in Veterans' Administration hospitals for an ever-increasing patient load. Millions of veterans have been helped through G. I. insurance, education and loans, and many other benefit programs.

I do concur wholeheartedly with the Bradley Commission's declaration that the service-connected needs of veterans should be given the highest priority, and that service-connected compensation and death benefits should be liberal and generous. I also believe our totally disabled veterans are under-compensated, and I intend to urge action to remedy this in the next session of Congress.

Sharing in the defense of our Nation is one of the duties of citizenship. At the same time, the men and women who have sacrificed in this defense must be able to count on their Government's appreciation and help.

Sincerely,

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

NOTE: The Bradley Commission was established by Executive Order 10588 of January 14, 1955 (3 CFR, 1955 Supp.), as the President's Commission on Veterans' Pensions. General

Omar N. Bradley was chairman of the Commission.

The National Tribune is a veterans publication.

268 ¶ Radio and Television Broadcast: "The Women Ask the President." *October 24, 1956*

[Broadcast from a major network studio]

THE PRESIDENT. Ladies, I am grateful that you should take time to come in today to talk over with me some of the critical questions of the day. There was a time, you know, when they called this a man's world, but at least in the political scene this has long ago ceased to be true. In the last election we found that 52 percent of the votes were cast by women and they instantly demonstrated that far from being confined to managing their homes they were going to have a big voice in managing the Government.

So today in order to get at some of the things that may be on your minds I suggest we handle it sort of like a press conference and each of you ask a question in turn. I think it would be best just to start on the left and we'll go in turn right around. If that's all right we'll start with you.

Q. Miss Beverly Barr: Mr. President, my name is Beverly Barr. I'm from Rochester, New York. I teach government and history in one of our public high schools and I am voting this year in my first presidential election.

First of all, speaking for the ladies, I would like to say that we are very definitely amateurs on television and so we have brought our notes with us. I hope this will be allowable.

The first question I would like to ask you concerns military training. Many of my friends and my brother who is now a college senior are facing the question of future military training. To my students in high school the question of will they have to go

in the Service and how long is of paramount importance to them as well as to their parents in planning for their future educational career. I would like to know if you could tell me how long you think it will be necessary for us to have a draft?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, to try to predict how long you would have the draft would be really using a crystal ball, and I don't think I'd be justified in talking about it in terms of months and years.

This draft is brought about by conditions. First of all we are a prosperous Nation—young men don't like to go in the Army. They have greater opportunities to get their careers started and earn a living in the civil world. On the outside we have a world of tension, one in which it is necessary that America be very careful, cautious, prudent, and vigilant.

Now, this means that we must have training because if these young men are ever called upon to serve—not necessarily in war, but let's say in some kind of emergency overseas to keep the peace—they must know something of discipline and training; because in this modern world, in this modern type of army, training isn't picked up overnight. So for him to be able to do his duty and take care of himself he needs some training.

As of now, we have about three million people under arms. Experience has shown time and again we can't keep more than about a million five on a voluntary basis. So what the draft does, which we try to keep as small as possible in the monthly calls, is first of all to provide that extra group; and secondly, it increases the voluntary enlistments because through voluntary enlistment a man gets a greater choice.

Now, I should say this—there's a very wide variety of training a boy can take, you know, with the 6 months' volunteer training and then going into Reserves, or he can wait his call, or he can enlist and so arrange his discharge of this obligation, performance of duty, with the least possible disruption of his educational life.

Q. Mrs. Louis Martin: Mr. President, I am Irene Martin

from Allen, Maryland, and the mother of 12 children and 17 grandchildren.

I am really worried over so much talk of this atomic bomb, the H-bomb. I would like to know what is the future of our families in this atomic age.

THE PRESIDENT. Well, again you've asked a very serious and important question. There is no question about it, the world must find peaceful solutions for the problems that used to be turned over to the arbiter of war. We never can have a hydrogen war, as I see it, and still have a civilization such as we now know.

It's absolutely mandatory that progress be made, and any who shut their eyes to this fact will, by doing so, deny their faith in the ability of men trying to do this, and so will not be helping. All of us must help, not just the leaders—everybody; all of us.

Now, as to the hydrogen bomb, itself, if we are going to remain secure in the type of world we have now, with aggression always possible, we must talk, we must urge agreement from a position of strength. Strength can cooperate with its neighbors and with other people; weakness cannot. Weakness can only entreat. So part of that strength is the bombs, because they prevent war, as we see it. They are a deterrent that warns any aggressor, "Don't attack us, because it would be suicidal."

We know on our part that we are a free government. People in our country determine whether or not we should ever go to war. Therefore, we know we are not going to start a war. It's only those countries where such decisions can rest in the hands of a few men who, in their reckless seeking after world power, might launch such a catastrophe on the world. We shall never do it. Therefore, it's a defensive weapon with us, a deterrent to war. We are not seeking a way to destroy civilization, I assure you.

Q. Mrs. Mary Lanuti: Mr. President, my name is Mrs. Mary Lanuti. I come from Oliphant, Pennsylvania, which is a small mining community. We also have other industry there; we are very, very prosperous, and due to your administration, Mr. Presi-

dent, we feel very secure. We think it's a very good, sound government. We'd like to keep it that way.

My husband is affiliated with the union; he's a laborer, and there is talk going around about a depression. That's what I would like to know, Mr. President: Is there any truth in that?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, now, again, let's try to be perfectly truthful.

Our economy is a rather delicately balanced mechanism, and always there are pressures that are trying to push it toward inflation, toward rising prices and cheapening money, and there are other pressures that are trying to push you toward scarce money and deflationary avenues.

The purposes of Government—and this includes the Federal Reserve Board, which is an independent agency in the management of our money—the purpose of that whole Government is to do its part so that these forces keep rather balanced and you keep a stable cost of living, for example.

The cost of living, you know, for some years has gone up very rapidly. In this last 3½ years we have been unable to stop it but we have made the rise so slow that it really becomes, we can call it, a stable area. The cost of living has gone up, although—I had a figure just before I came in here—the general cost of food across the board this last month was exactly the same it was January 1953. And this in spite of the fact—you know—you ladies are buying a lot of built-in maid service with your food these days; you buy foods that are all prepared and ready to go into the pot, some of them frozen, and that's the way you get them.

Now, this is all I can say about the prospects: the preponderant number of the economic factors point toward a continuation of good times, possibly not the exact height you have it now, but in that general level.

And this I can certainly assure you: if there are any signs show up that look like we are going the other way, everything the Government can do, every single force and influence it has to bring to

bear, will be brought in timely fashion and not after any such catastrophe occurs.

I really believe that with social security payments, with unemployment insurance, with all the things now that are available to someone who is temporarily out of work, our chances of getting a spiral deflation are much less than they ever were, because the purchasing power of the people stays up through those means.

So, I really can assure you, so far as my own convictions are concerned, you are not going to witness any quick deflation and depression.

Q. Mrs. Laurianti: Mr. President, I am Margarite Laurianti of Cleveland, Ohio. I own and operate a small beauty shop business. I come in contact with a lot of these women who do have small businesses. Now, some of my friends say that the wealth in this country wants to do away with small business. Can you give me your thoughts on this subject?

THE PRESIDENT. Once in a while, you know, you are charged with something that's sort of this order: "Well, the sun is not shining." And you know it very well is, and you are almost speechless in trying to answer. I know of no one in this country that wants to do away with small business. Every big-business man at one time was a small-business man. It's the lifeblood of our whole economy, just exactly as the family is a unit of our whole social order and civilization.

I just got the figures the other day from the Attorney General—during 1955 we instituted 54 suits for antitrust action to keep these big businesses from getting in such a dominant position that they can squeeze out the little fellow. Now, it is true, we want many of the things that big business give us. We have the cheapest and best cars in the world. We get televisions that are the best and probably the cheapest in comparison with our standard of living of anybody in the world. Why? Because there are great organisms making them. But we do try to keep those people from getting that influence over our economy that can override the

little fellow no matter what the size of his business or what type it is.

I assure you that it's something that takes the attention and the constant work of quite a group in the executive department as well as in the legislative.

Only in August we put out a new 14-point program, a little part of which needs legislative approval, the rest of it is already in action: loosening of credit; getting a method of reducing taxes for the smaller businesses, and so on, which we will have to go to Congress for; other things of that kind. I am sure you will see a continuation of the opportunities for a small-business person.

Q. Mrs. Violet Byg: Mr. President, I am Mrs. Violet Byg from South Dakota. I am a farm wife. We own and we operate our farm. We have five children and we like our way of life. Now, in our area there has been much adverse publicity about the farmer's plight, as they say, and the question that I would ask is: What is the true picture of the farmer's outlook in this America of ours?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, of course, I think the outlook is very good. We have had an 8-year decline in farm prices while the farmers had to pay along with all other America a gradually increasing cost for the things they buy. So the farmer has been in general caught in what we call a price squeeze and it has not been a good time.

Now, so far as Government can affect this whole business, we tried and have tried for a long time with wartime rigid price supports which, after the war was over and we didn't need quite so much of those basic crops, kept piling them up in surplus until there were, I think, nine billion dollars worth in storage at one time, costing us one million dollars a day to store them. Remember, you farmers weren't getting that; it wasn't coming to you at all.

So that's the kind of thing we've had, and that's just been like a dark cloud hanging over the price market. It's not been helpful.

Now, this last year, right now, in these last 6 months prices have started back up—'56 is the first year, except for one of the Korean War years, when prices have gone up in the farm business, since World War II. They've gone up about 6 percent. And with the opening up of world markets we're working on so hard, with the cutting down of these surpluses, with the soil bank to help out, I personally believe the outlook is much better than it's been in the last 10 years.

Q. Mrs. Catherine Marshall: I am Catherine Marshall, and I'm from Washington, D. C. The question I'd like to ask you is one that I have long wanted to ask you, face to face, and this has absolutely nothing to do with politics. I hope you won't mind that.

THE PRESIDENT. Not at all. It will be a relief, in fact. [*Laughter*]

Q. Mrs. Marshall: I remember reading several places about an incident that's supposed to have happened when you were a young boy when, according to the story, you had blood poisoning and the family physician felt that you were probably going to die unless your leg was taken off.

And, as I remember the story, you stationed your brother Milton outside the door and told him that no matter how high your temperature rose or how delirious you got, they were not to take off the leg. And then the family, the rest of the family gathered in the downstairs parlor to pray about this.

I have always wanted to ask you, is that story apocryphal or is it really true?

THE PRESIDENT. Of all the stories told about me, that one comes the closest to being told in accurate terms of any I know. There are one or two slight errors. This sickness went on for about—almost 3 weeks, and most of the time I was delirious. But I had my sane moments; I still remember that. [*Laughter*]

Now, the brother was not Milton, who's 10 years younger than I; it was Edgar, who was older, and was quite an athlete and I could trust him to take care of some things. [*Laughter*]

And the other was this: the doctor did want to take off my leg because he thought it was necessary. But you must remember boys in those days were raised for two things: work, and then they made their play; and if you couldn't play baseball and box and play football, why, your life was ended. That was in our boyish minds.

So, I was very desperate about this, and this brother, who was an athlete and who played on the same teams I did, understood it. And so he promised and he stuck right there.

My father and mother were very deeply religious people and, of course, they prayed through this. The story has been sometimes exaggerated that they just stayed there continuously. They were working. My mother was the nighttime nurse, and another person was the daytime, and they worked all the time. Part of it is a little exaggerated, but of course, prayer played its part unquestionably. The story otherwise is true.

Q. Mrs. Marshall: We are glad you still have your leg.

Q. Mrs. Dormitzer: Mr. President, I'm afraid we're back to politics with me. I am Helen Dormitzer from Chicago, Illinois. I am a sample of the thousands of women over the country who have become interested in Government and politics through volunteer civic work.

I have spent many years of my life working both in health and education, and my particular interest has been handicapped children.

In Illinois we really aren't too worried about your election. We think that's pretty much a sure thing, as far as we can estimate at this time. I think we feel that way because we know your opponent so well. As you probably recall, he is our ex-governor, and in 1952 one of the things you perhaps don't recall is that he carried only 4 counties out of 102 in the State of Illinois. And that's one reason we feel very sure about your election.

But our great concern, I think, and the concern of women all over the country is that we see to it that we elect a Congress

who will support the President, and I would like you to say today just how important you think this is.

THE PRESIDENT. Well, let me say this: as you can well imagine, Mamie and I, having wanted to live in our own home for these many years, would never have consented to again stand for this job unless we thought there was something to do.

That something to do has been outlined in the several state of the Union messages I have sent to the Congress and the programs that have been outlined. Most of you, I think, are fairly well acquainted with their broad general character.

Now, those things, as I see it, must be done for the good of America. They affect both the foreign field and the domestic field. As a matter of fact, these two fields are really so inter-related, I sometimes think it is a little foolish to talk about them in separate categories. We must be strong at home if we are going to be strong abroad. We understand that. So we want to be strong at home in our morale or in our spirit, we want to be strong intellectually, in our education, in our economy and, where necessary, militarily.

Now, it is to advance that kind of strength at home, to establish our position abroad a little more firmly, with what I call the moderate system of government, being very careful not to interfere with people more than is necessary, but do for them those things which they cannot, in our civilization, do for themselves.

I believe that that philosophy must be firmly fixed, and that is what we are trying to do. To do that, if we are going to have the two-party system in our country, it seems to me vastly important that the executive and legislative departments be handled by the same party at any one time. This, for the reason, then you can fix responsibility.

Look in the campaign today. One side says, "See what we did," and the other side says, "More of our people voted for it than yours did." And that is the kind of argument we now have, when as I see it, if you have both the legislature and the executive

in the hands of the same party, you can say, "You were in power and you did not," or "You did do."

And I think that is really what the two-party system should mean in our country. So, to answer your question specifically, I think it is important, indeed I do.

Q. Miss Beverly Barr: Mr. President, I want to tell you that in our county we have an extremely active Young Republican Club. We do a lot of work and we have a lot of good times and we are an extremely large group. And I wonder if you think you could give us your thought as to what there is about the Republican Party that attracts particularly the younger voter.

THE PRESIDENT. Well, if I can be personal for a moment, I've lived my life with young people. I lived with them in the Army. The armies and the military forces are all normally made up of young people. Only a few of the old generals and colonels don't fit in that category.

I learned for them a tremendous respect. I hold for them the greatest admiration. Moreover, as I tried to look into the future as this war was drawing to its close, it seemed to me that the people who were going to be more effective than anyone else were these young people. I remember in the very first talk I made after the World War—it was in Britain in June of 1945—I tried to bring this out: What are we going to do about this business of promoting peace? And that the young people of your age ought to get into this because, as I tried to explain, if you're lucky you still own about 60 years of America. If I am very lucky, I own 15 or 20 at the most, you see. You've got an interest that stretches way out; entirely aside from any who may come after you, your own personal interest is very deep in this.

Now, I have tried to emphasize this. I have told the Republican Party time and again if they didn't attract young people, they weren't getting the right recruits because you can vote in about fifteen presidential elections; I can vote maybe in two or three more. It is just good sense to have the youngsters. Besides, they are the ones that are going to have to live with this.

Now, I would beg of these youngsters not to decry the wisdom of experience but taking that experience, strike out boldly for themselves and make the kind of world they want to. And I just think they should do it. You know, I'm one of those that really believes we should allow voting a little younger than we do for a very definite reason.

I don't think the United States should put its safety in time of war in the hands of people who have no word at all about how it started and how it's going to be conducted. So I used to say in the war, if the man's old enough to fight he's old enough to vote. Now at that time he was fighting at about the age of 19. I thought that was a good age, but whatever—I still think if we're going to put him in the Army he ought to be allowed to vote by that time. Of course, that's up to the States, not to the Federal Government.

But everything that we do must be forward-looking, not backward. Let's don't look back and ask who is responsible for this or that war or that depression, or anything else; let's look ahead and see where we're going. And that, I think, is the viewpoint.

Q. Mrs. Louis Martin: Mr. President, there is a lot of talk about different things going on in the country, but what we would like to know is how it is that this administration has been able to have increased employment during a peace period when you only had increased employment during the Democratic administration?

THE PRESIDENT. Any political party that would take to itself exclusive credit for the development and advancement of America is not being truthful, or it's fooling itself. Here is what a Government can do. All these public functions, such as the management of money and of the Federal Budget, of the handling of these great governmental activities on an efficient and effective basis and not duplicating, not hiring and filling up extra jobs all over the place—all of that is part of efficient Government.

But aside from that, the Government must create confidence. Our private enterprise is built upon this basis. She—[*indicating*

Mrs. Laurianti—can start a business. Why? She can make a profit and then she can pay her people well and she wants to pay them well, because then they go to other businesses and buy things, and that all comes back again to her because then some can get their hair curled one day oftener or one week oftener—whatever it is. Now our whole progress is achieved by the people themselves working in the greatest amount of freedom you can give them, but under a Government that encourages that. That means confidence. When you get confidence people start to invest. Lying behind the job her husband has—[*indicating Mrs. Lanuti*—is at least 15,000 dollars investment. Where does it come from? It comes from the confidence of people that will invest in the machinery and the facilities and things that give him a job. All the way through, we've got to have this confidence, not just in the President or in the Congress or in the whole Government or in a few people. It's got to be in 168 million people. That is who must have it. Then may we have good times.

Now the Government must be watchful so the trends that get started, as we were talking a little bit ago about possibilities of depressions and inflations, you try to keep things on a level keel because today you will be putting money in social security payments. When you get to the time you draw those payments you want those dollars to buy just as much if you can as they buy today.

That is the reason for this stability that you are always struggling for, and that is the answer as I see it. But it is the people that do it.

Q. *Mrs. Mary Lanuti*: Mr. President, coming back to labor, because that is what I am actually representing, I would like to know, too—the opposition are stressing the fact about the taxes. Oh, the taxes didn't benefit labor or the little man that they call us, shall I say, but all they did was help corporations and the millionaire. Will you explain that to us?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I will give you one or two figures. In the years 1946 to 1952 the profits of corporations after taxes were

7.7 percent of the gross national income. Since that time, from January 1953 to today, those profits after taxes have been 6 percent, so that the great corporations, far from profiting, have lost about in the order of 15 or 16 percent of what they were getting.

Now, I personally resent this talk about little people. If there is any one little person in this country, then I am, because I am an American. That is the only thing I know. I think all of us should say that. Then we get away from this business of little people and big people. We are all necessary, your husband doing his job, she running a beauty shop, whatever we are doing. We are people that are contributing something to our society.

Now, what we want to do is to make sure everybody is rewarded properly and he is not given an unfair portion of the load to carry. In the tax cut we had, which is about 7.4 billions, as I remember it, two-thirds of it went to individuals, and a much bigger percent to the people that paid the lowest taxes than those who paid the highest.

People who paid the highest just got a little off, and so on down, but two-thirds went to individuals and one-third to businesses of all kinds, including corporations.

Now, by doing that, that helped to create this confidence, built up the investment so that we get these jobs that make the prosperity that we are experiencing right now.

The one thing, I think, that really annoys me more than anything else is to begin to refer to Americans as big Americans and little. I have friends in every walk of life. I have friends that are millionaires and I have friends that are out in my little town of Abilene, Kansas, where I was a barefoot boy, and they are just as dear and near to me as any millionaire I ever met, and I think this applies to every man worth his salt in this world.

Q. Mrs. Margarite Laurianti: Mr. President, I am not speaking for myself when I say this. I am speaking for women that I come in contact with. Can you give us a picture of this unrest that we are now having with the Suez Canal?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, of course, the Mid-East is almost historically a center of unrest and discontent. You have the age-old quarrel between the Jews of the area and the Arabs of the area, and this is complicated by others, because the Christians also look upon Jerusalem as their Holy City, and so you have other complications.

But now because of the fact that the Arabs think that Israel was started by almost a violence, they are very, very antagonistic, and so they almost look for ways in which they can be, let's say, antagonistic. The same applies to the other side.

Now, on top of this, we have this Suez Canal, which we thought was all settled until 1968 because the treaty of 1888 says that until 1968 it is going to be done this way. I think no one can challenge the legal right of Egypt to nationalize the Canal, but unquestionably there is involved in it the point, not only the point of national prestige but the point of personal prestige.

So here you have got this great waterway on which so much of the economy of the world depends, particularly all of the shipping nations. For example, there is an average, I think, of almost fifty ships a day going through that waterway. The commerce of the nations is dependent on it. When these nations all see that passageway sort of threatened, and their economy is threatened, which would mean a depression of some kind for them, they get very excited. We are not as heavily involved as are most, but still I think we have about 2½ percent of that, so it is a very complicated question. You can talk on it all afternoon, I assure you.

NOTE: The program originated at Broadcast House, CBS, Washington, D. C.

269 ¶ Statement by the President on the
Purchasing Power of the Wages of Factory Workers.
October 25, 1956

THE SECRETARY OF LABOR today gave me a very interesting report which concerns every American who works for a living.

He has informed me that the Department of Labor today issued two reports—one on the September cost of living, the other on the factory workers' take-home pay for September.

These latest figures reveal that as of September the average factory worker with a wife and two children could buy more with his paycheck than in any September in our nation's history. In other words, the purchasing power of the average factory worker is at an all-time high level for this time of year despite an increase of three-tenths of one percent in the average of consumer prices since last month.

This means that while consumer prices have risen 2.8% in three and one-half years, the wage increases received by our country's factory workers during that same period have meant to them a gain in real wages of 8.6%. When I say real wages, I mean the workers' actual buying power after deductions have been made for the cost of living and federal taxes.

270 ¶ Statement by the President on the
Developments in Hungary. *October 25, 1956*

THE UNITED STATES considers the development in Hungary as being a renewed expression of the intense desire for freedom long held by the Hungarian people. The demands reportedly made by the students and the working people clearly fall within the framework of those human rights to which all are entitled, which are affirmed in the Charter of the United Nations and which are specifically guaranteed to the Hungarian people by the

Treaty of Peace to which the Governments of Hungary and of the allied and associated powers, including the Soviet Union and the United States, are parties.

The United States deplors the intervention of Soviet military forces which under the Treaty of Peace should have been withdrawn and the presence of which in Hungary as is now demonstrated, is not to protect Hungary against armed aggression from without, but rather to continue an occupation of Hungary by the forces of an alien government for its own purposes.

The heart of America goes out to the people of Hungary.

271 ¶ Letter to President Diem on the First
Anniversary of the Republic of Viet-Nam.
October 25, 1956

[Released October 25, 1956. Dated October 22, 1956]

Dear Mr. President:

The admiration with which I have watched the progress of the Republic of Viet-Nam during the past year prompts me to send to you the warmest congratulations of the American people on the occasion of the first anniversary of the Republic and upon the promulgation of the Vietnamese Constitution.

The American people have observed the remarkable struggle of the Vietnamese people during the past years to achieve and to maintain their independence. The successes of the Republic of Viet-Nam in thwarting the aggressive designs of Communism without, and in surmounting the most difficult obstacles within, have shown what can be achieved when a people rally to the cause of freedom.

We in America pray that those now still living in the enslaved part of your country may one day be united in peace under the free Republic of Viet-Nam.

The achievements of the Vietnamese people will long remain a source of inspiration to free peoples everywhere. As Viet-Nam enters this new period of national reconstruction and rehabilitation, my fellow countrymen and I are proud to be sharing some of the tasks which engage you.

May the Vietnamese people inspired by your dedicated leadership and the high principles of their democratic institutions, enjoy long years of prosperity in justice and in peace.

Sincerely,

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

272 ¶ Address in Madison Square Garden,
New York City. October 25, 1956

General Kilpatrick, Mr. Roosevelt, Judge Morhouse, my fellow Republicans—and Independents, and there must be a lot here, because they say there aren't many Republicans—and friendly Democrats—my fellow citizens:

Now, the first thing I would like to say this evening, is to bring to you a suggestion for New York State with respect to its actions on November 6th.

First, I would deeply hope that you send back to the Congress your Republican contingent—and add to it materially.

And may I say a special word about Jack Javits. My friends, I know that some people have tried to impugn his loyalty. Some have called him a wild-eyed radical, and others lately, I see, have said he was a stick-in-the-mud reactionary.

I wonder if I could give you a few words of what I feel about Jack Javits. I have known him for some years. I have served with him in Washington. I have found him a man dedicated to his country, devoted to his duty, and wrapped up in his public service. So I would hope that throughout the length and breadth of this great State, from one corner to all the others,

that on November 6th, every friend of his—every friend of mine—everybody who believes as he does, in good, clean government, will turn out and give him such a blazing majority that he will go to Washington inspired by your action, uplifted in spirit, to do a job for you—for the country—and for peace.

And may I remark, with your permission, that if I were privileged tonight to speak also in your sister State of Connecticut, as I am privileged to speak here, I would speak of Senator Bush in exactly the same words.

Now first of all, I feel great, largely because of the way you have greeted me. But tonight I am reminded, my friends, of the time when last we met here in the Garden four years ago.

It is a happy memory—of friendships born and action pledged. It is something more: it is a wise and necessary remembrance. For it inspires us to measure the distance we have come from that day—to this.

Now these, I believe, have been four years of memorable meaning.

Four years ago, we wandered wearily in the darkness of a drifting war. And we tensely awaited—wherever it next might strike—the sharp and sudden thrust of some new Communist military attack.

We watched—within our nation—the dreary decline of political morality—and we wondered for how long a government could effectively lead the free world when it no longer commanded the pride of its own people.

We anxiously marked—in our economy—the rising menace of inflation.

And we were dismayed that—in our society—the advance of civil rights, for all sections, in all areas of our country, could remain almost stalled on dead-center—while political orators spent their energy promising so much and doing so little.

And so tonight, my friends, comes the testing question: how much have we done to build an America of greater justice and dignity—in a world of greater hope for peace?

We have made some historic strides forward.

For example, we suffer—this night—no fearful suspense, awaiting news from any foreign battlefield calling our sons to danger and to death.

We await—this night—no chilling word of some new assault upon a free nation. We hear, instead, from the peoples of Eastern Europe, the solemn word—the solemn proof—that men who have once known the blessings of freedom will lay down their lives in its name. The people of Poland and of Hungary—indeed, of all Eastern Europe—they are men and women whom America has never forgotten—nor ever will.

We have witnessed—here at home—the restoration to our government of integrity and dignity.

We have welcomed—in our economy—an effective attack on inflation.

And we have discovered—in our society—the true way to advance the cause of civil rights: less oratory, and more action—never, may I say, my friends, on a partisan basis to claim political credit for a simple matter of American justice.

These, then, are a few of the true and telling signs of the America that we—and all our citizens—have been helping to build these past four years.

I have seen much of this America—as I have travelled across our land these last weeks. And it is a thing of spirit—a thing of splendor.

I have seen the faces of hundreds of thousands of our people, and they shine—especially the young—with hope and confidence.

I have seen the face of our land—soil, rivers and forests—their richness and their power conserved with care, developed with skill, by a people thankful for this bounty of a generous Providence.

And there are other great things that I have had no need to see—for I know them. I mean—all the rolling mills and open hearths, the smoking factory-stacks and flaming furnaces.

Tonight—even as we meet here—the glow of these furnaces

and the light of these factories send their bright signals to the dark skies above. And they tell the world that 66 million Americans know—today—more secure and rewarding work than any people have ever known—anywhere in the world—anytime in history.

My friends, all this—all of us see. But how fantastically different it is from what we have lately been hearing.

We have been hearing the complaining chant of a chorus of apparently tireless partisan orators. This chorus sings a strange song—about a weak and fearful America.

And in this monotonous music the latest lament is that your present leadership has “no new ideas.”

Now, my friends, if the Administration has no new ideas, then I suppose you don’t, because you support it. So shouldn’t we together examine this point just a bit?

Now, first of all, not every new idea is necessarily a good one. Four years ago, you will recall, our people were told that if they elected a Republican administration, disaster will overtake the land, we will have depression, prosperity will evaporate. And a little later, with Republicans in power and in their first move to remove stifling controls from the wages and services and rents that were afflicting the land, we were told in the most solemn tones that we were going to have run-away inflation, rising living costs, and finally new disaster. They were new ideas. But, were they really?

Now another thing. In 1953, we found a number of old ideas for whose energetic application the American people had waited all too long.

It is undoubtedly an old idea to reduce Federal spending and lower Federal taxes. But someone had to do it.

It is an old idea to reduce unemployment. But it has taken today’s prosperity to reduce the unemployment rate to a level lower this last month than that in any peacetime September in the opposition’s twenty years of rule.

And how—all action aside—how true is it that the opposition enjoys some monopoly on the invention of new ideas?

Was it they who inspired and launched the greatest highway-building program in our history?

Was it they who proposed the program of Atoms for Peace?

Was it they who conceived our boldest proposal for disarmament, the Open Skies offer of mutual air-inspection?

Was it they who went to Panama for the first conference of Chiefs of State, in order to bind the Americas more closely together?

Now, my friends, I find nothing really new even in their political techniques for confusing public debate. Thus:

They charge your Government with indifference to the welfare of labor—but they are careful not to mention that labor's share of our national income stands today at its highest point in twenty years.

They charge your Government with excessive concern for big corporations—but they are careful not to mention that corporate profits after taxes since 1953 have represented a sharply lower share of our national income than during the seven postwar years of the preceding administration.

Possibly, though, one "new idea" has added to such political doubletalk a new kind of spice—and this is the hit-and-run statement. They have charged this Administration, for example, with lending vast sums of money to a foreign government that they said built up the personal fortune of an exiled Latin American dictator. They were horrified, for they made only one mistake: they were sitting on their own powder keg when they lit that fuse. And what did they do when they learned it was their Administration that had made these loans? They fled from the scene—and they did so in headlong silence. They have raced out of sight—to bury this issue, no doubt, somewhere far, far down the high, high road.

Now, let us turn to matters more serious, my friends, indeed the gravest issue before us: our quest of peace.

There is, of course, nothing amusing when the opposition's political techniques are extended to world affairs.

They urge a vigorous and realistic policy towards the Communist empire—and they suggest that we begin, in our relations with the Soviet Union, by trusting our national safety to agreements that have no effective safeguards and no controls.

They urge a bold American defense of freedom—and they urge us to try achieving this by starting to plan to end our military draft.

I respond to such propositions with one firm belief. There is no political campaign that justifies the declaration of a moratorium on common sense.

As your President, I cannot and will not tell you that our quest for peace will be simple, or its rewards swift. This quest may, in fact, cost us much—in labor and in sacrifice.

And I do not doubt the will and the ability of America to meet this mighty responsibility with a memorable response.

But that response requires, most clearly, strength. For a weak nation can bring neither hope to its own people nor help to its friends. It can only seek mercy of its enemies.

This indispensable strength demands of us certain simple things, beyond the power of partisan polemics to obscure.

We need our military draft—for the safety of our nation. We cannot throw the full future military burden upon veterans who have already earned their own nation's gratitude—nor can we urge our allies to shoulder arms—while we throw ours to the ground.

We need—no less—the most advanced military weapons. And these must be proven to be the best in the world.

And we need, also, to reiterate—as we constantly do—America's instant readiness to lay aside all nuclear weapons—including their testing—when, but only when, we have sure safeguards that others will do exactly the same. And it is very important that we get this issue clear in our minds.

The compelling challenge before the world is not the matter of testing nuclear weapons—but of making impossible their use in any nuclear war. It is to this far greater purpose that all

efforts of your Government have steadfastly been dedicated—through months and years of tireless negotiation, with both firm friend and potential foe.

In this mission of peace, we shall never rest—nor ever retreat. For I continue hopefully to believe that all nations can together find the road leading toward—not the illusion—but the reality of disarmament.

My fellow citizens, even as we have prospered and grown strong, yet we know that this is not enough. Man does not live by might alone. Nor are we content with pleasing contrasts between today and yesterday. We are concerned with the conquest of tomorrow.

We seek—first—the assuring of justice and dignity in our own society.

How do we propose to seek it?

We shall continue economic and fiscal policies that have helped generate our present prosperity. Soon there will be 70 million jobs for our people, marking another milestone in our eternal growth.

We shall continue expanding and improving all our programs for the benefit of the sick, the aged, and the disabled.

We shall—for the youth to whom the future belongs—build the schools they need.

We shall—with the next Congress—advance new programs to make more secure the future of our small businesses.

And we shall—with intelligence and sympathetic understanding—do all in our power to make more secure, for all citizens, their civil rights. And, as a special item of this matter, we shall seek, as we promised in our Platform, to assure women everywhere in our land equality of rights.

We shall vigorously lead the way to a review and revision of our immigration laws—to serve our own national interest, to promote understanding in the world, and to give new validity to America's role of leadership in this world.

My friends, all this is the work that all of us—you—your Con-

gress, and your President must—and shall—advance in the next four years.

And we shall act with like vigor and purpose in the whole wide world.

We shall encourage, more persistently than ever, wider markets and rising living standards for all nations.

We shall go on steadfastly seeking safe and sound means for disarmament—so that history can never say that this generation left humanity to be crucified upon a cross of iron.

And we shall never seek escape from any toil—or any sacrifice—that freedom demands of us. We know—above all things—that a people that values its privileges above its principles—soon loses both.

Thus will our spirit rule and direct our might.

And thus may we go on building this America of justice and strength, in a world of peace and of law.

Thank you, my friends, very much indeed.

NOTE: The President spoke at 9:00 p. m. His opening words referred to General John Reed Kilpatrick, Chairman, National Citizens for Eisenhower-Nixon, John Roosevelt, and Judge L. Judson Morhouse, Chairman, Republican State Central Committee of New York.

273 ¶ Letter to Joao Carlos Muniz, President of the Conference on the Statute of the International Atomic Energy Agency. *October 26, 1956*

[Released October 26, 1956. Dated October 23, 1956]

Your Excellency:

I beg to acknowledge your gracious invitation to address the closing session of the Conference on the Statute of the International Atomic Energy Agency on October the twenty-sixth.

This invitation has been a source of gratification to me personally and to the people of the United States. It had been my

earnest hope to appear at this historic Conference, at which the largest number of nations in history are met together. But it is now clear that the special circumstances of my present life,—which add inescapable political engagements to my official duties,—oblige me to deny myself the honor and privilege of accepting your great courtesy. It will be necessary for me to be present in Washington on Friday of this week.

May I hope, Mr. President, that you will express my sincere regrets to the assembled Delegates, and transmit to them some considerations which I had wished to present in person at the Conference's concluding session and which I am enclosing with this letter.

Sincerely,

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

NOTE: For text of the enclosure, see Item 274 below.

274 ¶ Statement by the President at the
Conference on the Statute of the International
Atomic Energy Agency. *October 26, 1956*

[Read by Lewis L. Strauss, Chairman, Atomic Energy Commission]

Mr. President and Delegates to the Conference on the Statute of the International Atomic Energy Agency:

Almost three years have passed since I was honored by an invitation to speak to the General Assembly of the United Nations. On that occasion, I proposed in behalf of the United States that atomic power—the greatest force science ever placed in man's hand—be put to work for peace.

Specifically, my proposal was: *first*, that governments begin, and continue, to make from their atomic materials stockpiled for war joint contributions to an International Agency; and, *second*, that this Agency be responsible for finding methods to apply these

atomic materials to the needs of agriculture, medicine, and other peaceful pursuits of mankind.

The United States then pledged its entire heart and mind to finding how the miraculous inventiveness of man should be dedicated, not to his death, but consecrated to his life.

The atom was regarded, in 1953, as a terrible weapon for war. Since the first explosion in 1945, man had fearfully multiplied its destructiveness. People knew that a single airgroup could carry a more devastating cargo than all the bombs that fell on Britain in World War II. Several nations had learned to make atomic weapons and swiftly transport them across oceans and continents. To many people the doom of civilization in a nuclear war seemed inevitable. When they looked ahead, they saw no hope for a peaceful future.

The proposal made in 1953 by the United States offered: for apathy, action; for despair, hope; for the whirlpool of general war, a channel to the harbor of future peace.

From the time that proposal was made, I watched with ardent expectation the outcome of all the work done by the sponsoring powers and the working groups, and the debates in the General Assembly and at this culminating Conference. The planning and framing of the International Atomic Energy Agency has required many months of patience and intelligent effort. These labors have now been completed by the Conference's approval of the Statute.

I congratulate the Conference for what it has accomplished. The Statute, and the International Agency for which it provides, hold out to the world a fresh hope for peace.

Since the United States made its proposal in 1953, the intensity of the atom's destructiveness has again been greatly multiplied. For their own salvation, men are under a compulsion that must not be denied to turn this furious, mighty power from the devastation of war to the constructive purposes and practices of peace.

That is why the world needs fresh hope—a new chance for man working with man to root out past frustration and past hopelessness.

That is why the United States will never cease from seeking trustworthy agreements under which all nations will cooperate to disarm the atom.

To spur the coming of such a day, the peace-loving nations have pressed forward with benign uses of the atom for man's well-being and welfare. As increased knowledge makes more terrible the atom's might, it also brings closer the realization of its potential for good.

Peace can come from nations working together. When they have a common cause and a common interest, they are drawn together by this bond.

We—as one of the peace-loving nations—have sought to share our atomic skills and materials.

Last February, we offered to make available to friendly nations, for peaceful use, 20,000 kilograms of nuclear materials—an amount equal to that allocated for like use within the United States. And we have entered into agreements with thirty-seven nations represented at the Conference—and are negotiating with fourteen more—to cooperate in building in their lands atomic reactors, of all types and sizes, for peaceful works.

People have shown their hunger to learn the intricate mysteries of the new atomic science. We have tried to satisfy that hunger, to break open doors that sealed off the knowledge they sought—through initiating great scientific congresses and by providing libraries and training courses and schools. We have been happy to offer our knowledge of ways to use the atom for peace, of ways to use the atomic isotope in medical care and cure and in agriculture and industry. Because science is without boundaries, a common knowledge of the peaceful application of this new science can help us all to a better understanding of each other.

In all those things that we do as a government, the United States does not seek for domination or control or profit. Nor shall we as a government ever do so.

It is now for nations assembled at this Conference formally to adopt the Statute.

Here is what I, in behalf of the United States, propose.

First: It shall be my care, when our Congress reassembles, to present the Statute for official ratification by our Senate in accordance with our Constitution, and to request appropriate Congressional authority to transfer special nuclear materials to the International Atomic Energy Agency. I wish my country to be among the first to recognize by official action what you at this Conference have accomplished.

Second: To enable the International Atomic Energy Agency—upon its establishment by appropriate governmental actions—to start atomic research and power programs without delay, the United States will make available to the International Agency, on terms to be agreed with the Agency, 5,000 kilograms of the nuclear fuel uranium 235 from the 20,000 kilograms of such material allocated last February by the United States for peaceful uses by friendly nations.

Third: In addition to the above-mentioned initial 5,000 kilograms of uranium 235, the United States will continue to make available to the International Atomic Energy Agency nuclear materials that will match in amount the sum of all quantities of such materials made similarly available by all other members of the International Agency, and on comparable terms, for the period between the establishment of the Agency and July 1, 1960. The United States will deliver these nuclear materials to the International Agency as they are required for Agency-approved projects.

Assuming that all nations represented at the Conference undertake parallel steps—within their capabilities—together we can overcome the obstacles that lie ahead and prove to each other

that international controls are not only feasible but generally acceptable as a way to achieve peace.

The prompt and successful functioning of the Agency can begin to translate the myriad uses of atomic energy into better living: in our homes, at our work, during our travel and our rest.

At present, we see only the first fruits of this atomic growth. Atomic-fueled plants, which are being planned or built in this and several countries, will in a few years be producing power for civilian uses: to turn the wheels of factories—to light the darkness in countless homes.

We will not lead people to expect the advent overnight of an atomic millenium. In many countries, long and patient scientific experimentation and trial must precede the generation from atomic sources of electric power that can compete with that produced by using available coal, oil, gas, or water power. But, in the meantime, this International Agency will be encouraging those scientific labors and research to hasten the looked-for day.

The benefits of our daily living which will result from putting the atom to work for peace—more abundant and cheaper power and light, irrigation of arid lands, less costly transportation, the opening to industry of territories hitherto denied—may come to us more slowly than we would wish. But there is something more important than these material benefits. I mean those highways that lead to a settled tranquillity among nations.

People have long been seeking a channel for peaceful discussion. The International Atomic Energy Agency offers one such channel. During the last three years of deliberations upon its establishment and functioning, this channel has been kept open. It shall be the purpose of the United States to broaden this channel and to encourage its general use.

Some day, we fervently hope, sanity will overcome man's propensity to destroy himself. Then, the world can beat its swords into ploughshares. All nations can turn their plants that make nuclear fuel to an exclusively civilian use, and the fuel in their

stockpiled nuclear weapons can also be put to work for man's health and welfare. In that happy time, the giant of atomic energy can become, not a frightening image of destructive war, but an obedient servant in a prosperous and peaceful world.

The real vision of the atomic future rests not in the material abundance which it should eventually bring for man's convenience and comfort in living. It lies in finding at last, through the common *use* of such abundance, a way to make the nations of the world friendly neighbors on the same street.

NOTE: The President's statement was referred to Joao Carlos Muniz, Ambassador to the United States from Brazil and President of the Conference, held at the United Nations headquarters in New York. His opening words "Mr. President"

275 ¶ Statement by the President Concerning the Entry Into the United States of Adopted Foreign-Born Orphans. *October 26, 1956*

I HAVE BEEN particularly concerned over the hardship that ensues to American citizens who have adopted foreign-born orphans and who have then found that they cannot bring their adopted children into the United States because quotas under the Walter-McCarran Act and the Refugee Relief Act are exhausted. Many of these foster parents are members of our armed forces who have completed tours of duty overseas and are forced to leave their adopted children behind.

I requested the Secretary of State and the Attorney General to determine whether it is possible to alleviate this problem—within the framework of existing law. The Secretary of State and the Attorney General have just reported to me that this can be done. Provision for bringing these orphans to our country,

pending action by Congress to amend the law, will be put into effect immediately.

276 ¶ Statement by the President on the Middle East Including the Israeli Mobilization.

October 28, 1956

DURING THE LAST several days I have received disturbing reports from the Middle East. These included information that Israel was making a heavy mobilization of its armed forces. These reports became so well authenticated that yesterday morning, after a meeting with the Secretary of State, I sent a personal message to the Prime Minister of Israel expressing my grave concern and renewing a previous recommendation that no forcible initiative be taken which would endanger the peace.

I have just received additional reports which indicate that the Israeli mobilization has continued and has become almost complete with consequent stoppage of many civil activities. The gravity of the situation is such that I am dispatching a further urgent message to Prime Minister Ben-Gurion.

I have given instructions that these developments be discussed with the United Kingdom and France which joined with the United States in the Tripartite Declaration of May 25, 1950 with respect to the maintenance of peace in the Middle East.

While we have not heard of such largescale mobilization in countries neighboring Israel which would warrant such Israeli mobilization, I have also directed that my concern over the present situation be communicated to other Middle East states urgently requesting that they refrain from any action which could lead to hostilities.

The Security Council of the United Nations now has before it various aspects of the maintenance of peace in the Middle East.

I earnestly hope that none of the nations involved will take any action that will hinder the Council in its efforts to achieve a peaceful solution.

NOTE: The messages to the Prime Minister of Israel, referred to by the President, were not released.

277 ¶ Letter to a College Student Concerning the Administration's Views on Education.

October 29, 1956

[Released October 29, 1956. Dated October 26, 1956]

Dear Miss Cornell:

Thank you so much for your letter in which you ask me about the position of this Administration on the critically important issue of educating our youth. I am happy to give my answer—particularly to you, a college student young enough to be a bridge to America's tomorrow.

During the past few years, this Administration has given unprecedented emphasis and leadership to the cause of education. Our actions have been based on the time-tested principles that, first, there *is* a national interest in education, and, second, that the role of the Federal Government is to aid, encourage, and facilitate—but never to control—education.

What is the present status of our educational system and program?

Today, more Americans are receiving more and better education, in better schools and colleges, from more and better teachers, than ever before. This simple fact is both a record of accomplishment and a guarantee of our future.

The classroom shortage, which grew steadily worse over a long period, has been improving now for the past two years. Last year about 67,000 classrooms were built, more than in any year in

our history. More classrooms were built during the past four years than in all the preceding twelve.

The teacher shortage has reached a turning point. The number of students entering colleges for teacher training increased 24.5 percent from 1953 to 1955. The current shortage of qualified elementary and high school teachers is estimated at 120,000, a reduction of 20,000 compared with the shortage of last Fall.

The position of teachers, the life-blood of good education, is steadily being improved. Teachers salaries have been increased in many communities, a reflection of improved support and esteem for the role of teachers in our community and national life.

There is an increase in the number of students preparing for careers in science and engineering. Private gifts to higher education have reached new heights. Additional nationwide scholarship programs are under way. Education is playing a larger international role in improving world understanding.

Under our system, education is basically a community function. It requires the active support of citizens in their own homes. With this in mind, I initiated the White House Conference on Education. Under this program, half a million citizens met in almost 4,000 communities across the country to study and act on the problems of their schools. I know the labors of all these people have been, and will continue to be, of great benefit to education.

I deplore the cynical political criticism that has been directed at the efforts of these half-million people, who understood and shouldered their responsibility. Citizen interest and responsibility in educational problems was stirred by this Conference. It gave impetus and direction to a long-felt need for action.

In two special messages to Congress I submitted a program of Federal action designed to serve the cause of education.

In the first, I requested an unprecedented increase of nearly 100 percent in funds for the Office of Education in the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, from three and one-fourth million dollars to more than six million dollars. Congress approved

an increase of about 65 percent. These funds are now at work expanding services in the Office and for the first time establishing, in cooperation with colleges and universities, a program of research on some of the basic problems in education.

In the second message, I requested a five-year program of Federal aid to help needy communities build more schools. There are two simple and indisputable facts about this legislation. First, it was not enacted. Second, the only ones who will suffer because of this failure are those who count most but cannot vote, our children.

At the next session of Congress, I shall ask for similar legislation. But, with one precious year lost, I shall ask that the job be done in four years instead of five. It is my earnest hope that the men and women of the next Congress will unite in good will for our children to enact this legislation.

The larger student enrollments, which helped create today's problems in elementary and secondary education, will be felt increasingly in higher education. To increase our understanding of the problems ahead in this field, and to help lead the American people to effective action to meet them, I have appointed an outstanding group of laymen and educators, the President's Committee on Education Beyond the High School.

In this realm of higher education a special problem results from the increasing impact of scientific development on our lives and the international competition in this development both for peaceful profit and for warlike potential. I have therefore acted to encourage the training of more scientists, engineers and technicians. By my appointment a distinguished committee is now working on an action program in this field.

My associates and I are ever mindful of our educational problems, and we are constantly striving for new ideas and greater achievement. The entire Administration program in this field has one all-embracing purpose, the conservation and cultivation of our most precious resource—our youth.

I am most appreciative of your having taken the time and trouble to write to me, and, as a citizen, I am grateful for your sincere interest in our country's future.

Sincerely,

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

Miss Karen Cornell
Post Office Box 6272
Asheville
North Carolina

NOTE: Miss Cornell's letter of October 9 was released with the President's reply.

278 ¶ Address at the International Airport,
Miami, Florida. *October 29, 1956*

Mr. Chairman, Mr. Hiser, my West Point classmate, General James Van Fleet—My Fellow Citizens:

I have been advised that it is a waste of time for me to visit the South this year. And of course I was told that four years ago. But I have been told that Florida's decision in 1952 was a sheer political accident—never to be repeated. But even if that opinion were right—and I don't believe it for a minute—I can still thank you for your support in 1952. And I do, with all my heart.

Likewise, I am delighted that the First Florida District sent William C. Kramer to our Congress. I hope they re-elect him, and I hope that by that re-election they recognize his good work.

I commend to you of this District Mr. Leland Hiser. In other Districts, G. M. Nelson, Arnold Lund and Mrs. Dorothy Smith. All of them are present here today. And I assure you, I can use their support in Washington.

But let me make one thing clear, whatever your decision this

year—whatever it may be—Florida continues to be every bit as important to me as any other State as long as I am President.

And this gives me an opportunity to ask you, for these last few days of the campaign, to work just a little bit harder to make certain that everybody votes. Let them vote for us if we can possibly get them to do so—but by all means vote, even if they have to vote in a mistaken way. What we must do, my friends, is to make certain that America makes the decision, not just a small minority.

Now the sight of Miami from the air—as I saw it a few minutes ago—always amazes me. There seems to be no limit to your capacity to grow. You get bigger and bigger.

And so for the political pessimists who think Americans can accomplish nothing unless government bureaucracy does it for them, I have a prescription. This is it:

“Go to Miami. Just spend a few hours there. See what the people of that area have done on their own, for themselves and for the good of our whole country.”

Now, of course, this prescription is not going to cure the dismay of those politicians who deal in pessimism and gloom. They would be out of business, if they had to drop prophesying misfortune and disaster.

You know, whatever happened to that 1952 battle cry of theirs, “Don’t let them take it away”? The fact is that this year they have become desperate in their failure to make you think that prosperity is poverty, that progress is really stagnation, that high employment is an illusion, that every social and economic gain of the past four years is just a myth.

And so, my friends, as these political alarmists come into the final innings of this contest, we find them swinging wildly, knocking a lot of foul balls—and striking out.

I, for one, have never been pessimistic about America—present or future. And you people, clearly, have never suffered from such pessimism either. That is why you get things done.

Florida today is typical of what is best in America.

You have dreams—visions about the future. But you don't just think and talk about them. You get going on them.

You have a wealth of natural and human resources here. But you just don't brag about them. You use them.

The consequence is a diversified economy, a widely shared prosperity that—great as it is today—merely forecasts the advances you will make in the years ahead.

Now, I should like to show you, my friends, that the entire State of Florida and its progress today is vindication of this Administration's policy that the American people, first:

Given freedom from war and uneasiness about their defenses against war, can use the new knowledge of modern science and its new tools, to build a prosperity unparalleled in our history.

The American people, given freedom from punitive taxation and from extravagance in the use of their taxes, can use the money thereby saved to invest in more comfortable homes, and in better schools—in all the enterprises that make America a good place to live in.

The American people, given freedom from bureaucratic controls and usurpation of responsibility, can achieve any material objective they set themselves. They can do it without the slightest diminution of their freedom, their initiative, or their spirit.

The policy of this Administration—foreign and domestic—is the concrete and factual expression of the pledges I made to you four years ago:

I pledged, first: That we would build a sound security system for America and would work tirelessly for freedom among men and for peace with justice in the world. This we have done, and we continue so to work.

I promised to give you an Executive Branch of your government of integrity and dignity, made up of people of unimpeachable character and ability and we have done so.

I pledged: That we would fight waste in government, balance the budget, cut taxes and do a better job at the same time. And we have.

By fighting waste in government, we cut 10 billion dollars from the budget that was handed to us by the prior administration. We gave to the American people the largest tax cut in our whole history—7 billion dollars and more. And we have balanced the budget, and even made a small payment on our national debt.

And, my friends, I pledged this: That we would make the Federal Government once again what the Founding Fathers intended it to be and what a majority of Americans have always wanted it to be: a partner of the States and a servant of the people. And we have. And we are still doing so.

Four years ago I pledged as President of all the people, I would use every proper influence of my office to promote for all citizens that equality before the law and of opportunity visualized by our Founding Fathers. I promised further to do this with the conviction that progress toward equality had to be achieved finally in the hearts of men rather than in legislative halls. I urged then, as I urge now, the handling of this question, to the greatest possible extent, on a state and local basis. I believed then, as I believe now, that there must be intelligent understanding of the human factors and emotions involved, if we are to make steady progress in the matter, rather than simply to make political promises never intended to be kept.

In this whole question, my friends, we have tried to bring reason, good sense and good judgment to the performance of clear duty. We have earnestly tried to keep it from becoming a partisan matter, for we are talking here, not about a political issue, but about justice for Americans. The very great progress we have made these past four years has been based on these simple, sensible principles.

Now, all these things we in Washington have done. And you here in Miami, men and women like you all across the United States, have done the rest. Our prosperity is the product of your confidence and energy and ability.

One thing we must of course remember: The United States cannot exist as an island of prosperity in a world of poverty.

For that reason, the growing economic strength of other free nations, and particularly of those countries bound in common purpose with us within the friendly framework of NATO, is a matter of deep satisfaction. That we have had a part in bringing it to pass makes this economic progress even more gratifying.

Nothing has been more heartening than the recent announcement of two new proposals that would advance further the economic integration of Europe.

The first is the concept that six Western European countries might establish a common market in which all internal barriers to trade would be completely eliminated, just as they are within the United States. The second is the challenging idea that, thereafter, Great Britain, in association with other countries on the European Continent might gradually, over a period of years, establish a free trade area around the common market.

We shall watch these exciting new developments with the keenest interest. Because, my friends, as Europe grows stronger economically, we gain in every way. And Florida, facing this great market for its products, will particularly profit.

Developments such as these have a far more enduring effect than scarehead forebodings publicized in political campaigns.

Our world of friends is far larger than Europe, of course. To the south of us lies a vast continent with tens of millions of peoples, our physical and spiritual neighbors.

From the first days of this Administration, we have been devoted to strengthening our ties with them; to opening up new avenues of trade between us and them; to establishing a true partnership based on mutual understanding and genuine friendship. Such a partnership between North America and Latin America can be mutually profitable beyond any similar one in the world.

In building this partnership, much has been done in the past four years. Naturally, our opponents deny that. But they cannot seem to keep straight even such simple things as names and dates

and places and loans—particularly to whom and by whom loans are made.

It was right here in Miami, my friends, that a candidate for the Presidency charged that this Administration had loaned a lot of money to another country, and that the money was used to swell the personal fortunes of a dictator later deposed.

The candidate was eloquent in his expression of his sense of resentment—astonishment—chagrin—and shock.

But what happened when he found that it was the preceding administration and not mine—that made this loan?

Suddenly this sense of shock, astonishment, chagrin, disappeared, because we haven't heard another word about it.

Now, my friends, you know the opponents, here, are paying a compliment—deserved, I think—to this Administration. It was shocking to them that we should do anything like this—is the point I want to make.

There have been new standards of political and personal morality established in Washington.

The meeting of the Presidents at Panama last summer was not the culmination of our effort to make better friends with our neighbors to the southward. Rather, it was a milestone on the road of accomplishment. There with the Presidents or Presidents-elect of almost all other American Republics, I discussed mutual problems and mutual purposes in frank and friendly terms. All of us there recognized that every increase in hemispheric solidarity helps increase hemispheric security and prosperity.

Your Administration intends to continue and to amplify the search for better ways to expand trade and travel between the Americas. We shall also increase the exchange of students and of cultural knowledge, and strengthen all the ties that join us together as a single family.

Now you of the Miami area have already done much to develop recognition of our mutual hemispheric interests and to promote a friendly solidarity. For one thing, the first impression of the

United States that the visitor from Latin America gets, here in Miami, is the finest possible introduction to the energy, the vision and the spirit of our entire country.

And so now, at this natural gateway to the islands of the Caribbean and the nations of South America, you envision a great Inter-American Cultural and Trade Center.

You have set for yourselves, indeed, a most worthy objective: to help promote an American continental neighborhood.

And the American hemisphere must be a neighborhood that is safe and prosperous and happy—at peace, for in a world of peace we can pool our creative intellects, our natural resources, our human energies to the betterment of all who live in both Americas.

Now, my fellow citizens, for one moment let me speak most seriously about something that can have no possible partisan connotations.

Even as we speak this day of our hopes and strivings for peace and justice in the world, we know that there persists real and present danger to that peace. This danger rises in various places; none more critical at this moment than at the ancient crossroads of the world, the Middle East, where whole civilizations meet. Ancient animosities flare anew. Fears and hatreds deeply divide nations—with all of whom America would be, hopes and seeks to be, a friend.

In such a critical situation, we cannot expect to erase suddenly the bitter heritage of the ages. We can—we must—and we shall—go on striving to do all in our power to heal old wounds, rather than to let them re-open—in bloodshed.

We can—and we do—use the full moral power of America to direct the purposes of all nations away from conflict—and toward concord. And we are able to do this because all the world knows that we have no national ambition adversely affecting any other. We covet no land—no authority over others. We want only to serve the cause of a just and lasting peace for all people.

You—you in this throng—in all Miami—and Florida—and throughout America—everybody—are dedicated to this kind of universal peace. To that dedication I pledge the resources of your government for as long as you choose to continue me in my present duties.

We shall press our search for peace from a position of strength—spiritual, intellectual, economic, military strength. We shall take no step for the winning of a transitory acclaim that might reduce by one iota the security of this Republic.

But we shall never hesitate to take any step that is constructive and prudent, that will advance the cause of a just, lasting, international peace. In this quest—in this greatest quest of mankind—in this great crusade, I seek your help—the help of every single American in the land.

My friends, my thanks for your courteous attention and for coming out to this place to see me.

Thank you.

NOTE: The President spoke at noon. State Republican Chairman, G. With him, among others, was the Harold Alexander.

279 ¶ Address at the Imeson Field Airport, Jacksonville, Florida. *October 29, 1956*

Mr. Chairman, General Van Fleet—My Fellow Citizens:

I should first like to take advantage of this opportunity to pay a personal tribute to a great Floridian, General Van Fleet. He was one of the few men who, in World War Two, led a regiment across the beaches and at the moment of victory was a three-star General commanding a corps.

Next, I want to pay my personal tribute to Florida. Here is a place I like to come. I regret sincerely that my visit today can touch only two of your cities, and that only briefly. Had I the opportunity to go through your cities and streets, not only here

and in Miami but throughout all the other towns of Florida, I would deem it a very great honor and privilege.

Florida is lucky in one way. Here was the scene of a battleground between a pair of opponents we now have—who are seeking the Presidency and the Vice Presidency respectively. You learned a great deal about them, particularly you learned about each of them from the other, and you learned about the depth of admiration, the great respect, that each had for the other, and about the qualifications that each felt and said that the other one had for the great Office of the Presidency.

Now there is one question that we could answer very quickly then, I think, this afternoon, since you know these things: Do we want this pair in Washington?

Well, that is what you are going to decide on November 6th.

I want to talk to you today a little bit about the problem of making a living.

Now we know that man does not live by bread alone, but we do know that making his daily bread is his preoccupation during his working hours.

We are very, very grateful for the record of prosperity that these past four years has brought to us. Now the opposition not only says this is a false prosperity, they even say it doesn't exist. Just exactly how they expect to make you believe it, I have never been sure—but they have done many things that are puzzling to me. But I must say this very seriously, they paint a false picture of America's economic might, her economic capacity to produce whatever she needs to produce for peace—or if a tragedy of war should come, for that.

Now for some reason or other, the opposition has seen fit to paint a picture of gloom at home and doom abroad; and we can examine exactly what has been happening, to see just how much substance there is to this.

I would like to make one observation: If you do play politics with our great prosperity, it is just possible that you could destroy it. That, we shall not let happen.

In 1952 you voted very decisively—very emphatically—for a change.

Now let's see what difference there has been. Now in Washington there is a very big difference. First from Washington, the mess has disappeared. Only the highest standards, not only of law but of ethics are tolerated in the Executive Branch of the Federal government; and that is, cleaning up the mess.

Instead of running in the red, your government is running in the black. Instead of higher taxes, you have lower taxes. Instead of indifference, neglect and waste, you have honest, efficient government. Instead of the black depression our opponents so confidently predicted in 1952—if you were foolish enough to elect any administration except theirs—we have created—you have created—the greatest prosperity in all history.

And so no more do you hear the wail—that 1952 wail: "Don't let them take it away." The standards of 1952 are far back along the path of America's continuing progress. You have record payrolls, and most important of all, you do not have daily casualty lists.

Now there's a very large difference in our beliefs. By their past deeds, or their words, the opposition seems to believe that centralized, paternalistic government is necessary in this country. They minimize the function of the State government, and they seem to think that the ordinary citizen knows how to make a living only if they tell him how.

They seem to think that inflation—the inflation that robs our pocketbooks—is not really so bad. They claim to have a very great concern for those who are living on social security payments—those people who are living on pensions or upon their bonds. Now, my friends, if you pay social security payments today from your payrolls, and they are paid off 20 years from now in twenty-cent dollars, you are the sufferers—not the rich, not the big corporations; you, the people that live on that kind of fixed income.

So let's not have any of this business of inflation, unless we are concerned only with the big man and not their so called "little men."

And finally, they seem to think that fiscal integrity is not nearly so important to a nation as you know it is in your own family. How they get this idea, I am not sure—but they say, I guess you can print dollars; and again we have inflation.

We believe that the strength of a nation is in its people. We believe that it is people that count. It is your desire to work—to venture—to earn more—to own more—to better your position, your family, your community.

That is what makes America tick.

That is what brings our prosperity.

What the government can do is to create the climate in which you can realize and fulfill your ambitions. The government cannot make you prosperous.

And so, because you have had this government that trusts you, and therefore you are trusting them, giving you the confidence to go ahead, you have created an economy that is now racing forward at a level of above four hundred billion dollars a year. And that is without the help—the tragic help—of a war.

In 1930 we had peace, but no prosperity. In the next decade—the forties—we had a great deal of prosperity, but we had no peace. Now we have both—the creation of you—working with your government.

So today we have more than 66 million Americans gainfully employed. And only today—since I started on this trip from Washington—I have received information, soon to be released in detail, that employment for the month of October is up over last month, and up a million over October of last year. That, my friends, makes it the biggest October in our entire history.

And on top of that, let us compare it for just one moment with October of 1952.

There are today four million, 300 thousand more jobs, with people gainfully employed in them, than there were four years

ago. Real wages are at an all-time high. And by real wages, I mean after you have paid your taxes, after you have paid for any rise in the living costs, your real wages are still up 8.5 percent. And there is certainly nothing false about that kind of prosperity. You are not on a treadmill, with the cost of living going up just as fast as wage increases—as they used to do.

Now you make the gain. And so these real wages make more work—cars, houses, churches, schools, vacations, more ball games, more concerts, more savings—more of everything that every human being wants for himself and his family.

Never before in history have our working men and women enjoyed—all at the same time—increasing wages and decreasing income tax returns, and such a remarkably stable cost of living.

So there is a story, my friends—more production, more jobs, more income—a prosperity never before so great, never before so widely shared.

This makes it truly a people's prosperity.

Now this prosperity has been achieved by you, working in a favorable climate, fostered by your Administration.

Now, what did we do to bring this about?

Well, we promised to end the Korean War. And we did.

We promised to free the economy of stifling controls on wages and prices. And we did. And do you remember the dire predictions when we removed controls in 1953? The so-called economists of the opposition predicted great runaway inflation, to be followed by depression, with all America practically out of work.

On the contrary! There has been real prosperity, most widely shared than it has been—ever—in our history.

And then we promised to balance the budget. And we did that. And paid something on our debts. And, my friends, when a national debt has reached the astounding total of 275 billion dollars, to pay a little bit on the debt looks like it is a very, very wise thing to do.

And when we cut taxes in 1954—as we promised to do—we cut taxes so that it benefited every man, woman and child in the

United States—two-thirds of that 7-billion-dollar tax cut going directly to individuals.

And we promised integrity and thrift and efficiency in government. And we delivered on that promise.

We promised to take the government out of competition with private business. We have made great strides in doing so, with special benefit to small business.

Now we promised, also, to lift from our working men and women some of the anxieties of life. We are proud of the expansion of social security benefits, of broadening unemployment insurance, of strengthened health programs, and many other things done to provide more security and care for the old, the infirm, or the unemployed.

Government can have and has had a heart—as well as a head.

I am quite sure you will not let the prophets of expediency tell you anything different. You can refer them to the list of facts piled up in these last four years.

What I have said, my friends, is not to be taken as indicating that we are at all satisfied with what has been done. The job of improving and building America will never be finished.

We can—and there are programs afoot—increase our prosperity, particularly extend it to those who are not yet sharing fully in it. Certain areas, and particular parts of our farm industry have been particularly affected, and the programs devised by your government are carrying the fair share of that prosperity to those areas.

Then there are other sections of chronic unemployment. This is due to the changes in our economic scene. For example, in the coal industry, as coal falls off in use, something replaces it—there results unemployment. In the shifting of industries from north to south or east to west, unemployment comes about. There are broad programs now afoot to make certain that these difficulties are overcome, with the help of the government, and people can be fully employed again.

Low-income families, whether they be in the city or on the

farm, or whether it be clearing of slums and helping in soil conservation—we are attacking all of these problems, with the help of the people affected themselves.

Now, my friends, literally thousands of letters come into the White House per week. At this time of year, particularly of an election year, these have mostly to do with some phase of our political contest. Lately, I notice that the letters coming into the White House have been—a majority of them—from young people, many of them from GIs—many of them from GIs with whom I served.

This question appears, directly or indirectly, in almost all of those letters:

What kind of America are we headed for? What kind of America are we and our children to have?

Now the answer: Most of it is up to you, and to millions of Americans like you over this land. You have a choice. You can take a chance with your children's future—you can go back to the leadership and the program you turned down in 1952.

Or, you can continue the crusade we launched four years ago: the building of an America that is secure and peaceful—an America of unmatched prosperity and opportunity—an America realizing the golden age of promise.

This is the question that these young people want answered.

Consider what the dimensions and character of that age can be. It can be an America with an annual production approaching the 600-billion-dollar mark in another ten years. It can be an America rising to fill new employment at a rate of one million jobs a year, a total of more than 70 million jobs four years hence—an America whose spreading prosperity will mightily support our efforts to wipe out the last vestiges of poverty and discrimination.

[*An airplane goes overhead*]: I will abandon the contest for a moment.

It can be an America living at peace with itself, dedicated to the ideals of our founding documents—opportunity—justice—

equality before the law. It can be an America leading the search for a just and lasting peace in the world and—with God's help—succeeding.

Now let me make very clear, my friends: the winning of peace will not be easy. It is going to call for ceaseless work. It will mean sacrifice, not merely in the national sense but often for each of us.

But let us remember the price—the value—that people who have once known liberty and freedom place upon it. We need not go far back in history to our own brave days of the Revolution and since. We look today across the seas, and we see Poland and Hungary—we see people so dedicated to the idea of man's rights, to man's dignity, to his freedom, his liberty, that they are willing to die.

There is a very, very serious lesson for us, that each day we resolve, as we go about our work, that the one thing we will not have to do is compromise with our individual liberty and our national independence.

And because peace is very intimately tied up with this love of liberty, it is essential that America not only foster and sustain this yearning for liberty in our own nation, but that we do it elsewhere.

A free nation does not seek war, because the decisions in a free nation are made by the people that fight the wars.

So it is absolutely to our advantage and in our own interests that we foster this yearning and respect for liberty wherever it appears in the world.

Now, to serve liberty—to serve people—America must be strong, strong in our hearts, in our dedication to ideals—strong in our support of the political concepts handed down to us by our forefathers. We must have this great economic strength growing every day—and continuing to grow.

And we must have military strength. A strong America, my friends, is the hope of our own people, and it is a help to our friends. And just as important, it is particularly valuable that any

potential enemy know of our strength, and is thereby deterred from the tragic folly of attacking us.

We know in our own experiences, weakness cannot lead and weakness cannot cooperate. Weakness can merely ask—it can beg—it can seek. But it cannot help.

Strength can help.

So, my friends, we must be concerned about the peace of the world. We must miss no opportunity to use our entire imagination to give to the pursuit of peace our entire dedication. But we can show that concern without being careless.

So I say, at this particular stage of the world's history, where we see a once proud people being trampled down by marching regiments, this is no time to stop the draft—this is no time to stop perfecting our weapons.

And remember, my friends, I don't say and I do not believe we should be seeking to make bigger and stronger and more destructive weapons. Our science is now directed to: how do we use this new science to protect ourselves, to make defense weapons, to make them small and clean, and make them more suitable for military objectives instead of civilian cities.

And so I say, let us make every possible agreement we can to reduce the risks in the world, but let us do it with the proper safeguards.

But finally, every phase of our national effort—our economy—our prosperity—our opportunities for education—everything that we want—depends upon progress in this reach for peace. We must move ever forward. We must not let anything tire us. We must never let anything wear out our patience—no matter how serious the problem. We must simply say, "Then we work the harder."

We must reach a state in the world where you and I—as well as potential opponents—can have confidence that agreements are sound, and we can live with, devoting our efforts and our sweat and our labor to peace—not to war. And this means that as we make a life—as we make this living that we work for day to day,

we will also work out a way of life for our nation and—with God's help—for the world.

My friends, I have only one request to make upon you today. What I have been talking about—opportunity—the richness of the heritage of America—the opportunity to help produce peace in the world—is in your hands, in a very definite measure.

If you will exercise the rights—the privileges—as well as discharging the obligations of your citizenship, you will vote, and record your convictions and your opinions.

Of course, if you can vote for the side in which we believe, that is all to the good. But in any event: vote! Be sure you do it, and get everybody else to do it.

NOTE: The President spoke at 2:30 p. m. His opening words "Mr. Chairman" referred to Thomas A. Larkin, Republican Campaign Director, Duval County.

280 ¶ Address at Byrd Field, Richmond, Virginia. *October 29, 1956*

Chairman Hatcher, Mr. Robertson—My fellow Americans:

First, may I thank you sincerely for the cordiality of your welcome, a welcome that I appreciate all the more because I know some of you have been waiting here a very considerable time so that I might greet you and express to you a few thoughts in this political campaign. I do apologize for the lateness of the hour. But things happened that we couldn't prevent. In any event, because you stayed here, I want to thank each of you personally on behalf of myself, my wife—my whole party.

Now I am especially regretful that I could not stay here on this trip long enough actually to visit your historic city. But I determined that at the very least I would stop here momentarily, if I could do nothing else than merely to pay my respects to this State where so many of America's patriots had their homes—and

where on the more personal side my mother was born and spent her girlhood.

Now always when I do come here, I feel inspired by the giant figures Virginia has brought forth on the American scene—from Washington to Lee, to Woodrow Wilson, to my old chief and friend, George Marshall—one of the truly great men of this generation.

Through all history, certain concepts have seemed to characterize Virginia leaders. You believe in honesty and integrity and dignity in government—in all echelons. Moreover, you believe in doing things yourselves. You want State and local authority preserved. In Washington you want a proper respect for the constitutional division of powers between Federal and State governments. Your tradition is that big central government is likely to be bad government, that the freer our people are to run their own affairs, the better off all will be.

And as for the simple, old-fashioned virtue of not spending more than you make, you have here in Virginia the living symbol of this concept: Senator Harry Byrd. I am proud to pay my respects to him. He is true to your great heritage for efficiency in government, elimination of extravagance, strong local government—these concepts were as dear to Thomas Jefferson as they are to your leaders today.

Now, of such concepts, my friends, is what I intended to speak to you tonight, however briefly. They have been in my thoughts since this campaign began. But out of regard for the lateness of the hour, and for the length of time you have been here, let me say this:

I would like to visit with you just a little while personally. You have heard all the arguments pro and con. You know what I and my associates promised to you four years ago. We promised to restore honesty and integrity in government. We promised to cut useless government expenditures, and to return to the people the taxes we could thus save. We promised to work for full em-

ployment for everybody, for an increasing prosperity, widely shared throughout this nation.

Now, today, four years later, we point to the record. We say, look at it!

Now the opposition says to you: you are not prosperous, you are starving—you are poor—we are not working. They pay no attention to statistics, that here this last October we just went up another 100 thousand over the previous month—we had the biggest employment month, in October, in our history. And the lowest unemployment month. These are the things they say are not true.

They don't believe that you have cars and television sets, that you are the most prosperous in the world. They say, if it's prosperity, it's false prosperity. Why? I don't know.

Now, ladies and gentlemen, they go into the cities and they say, we will keep a sound dollar and we will keep down living costs. They go to the countryside and advocate a loose expenditure of money and carelessness in our fiscal affairs so that they can spend more billions. And in all of this, they are going to balance the budget and cut taxes. This just can't be done.

Now, by no means do we of this Administration say, now we have reached the millenium, that peace is here permanently, that we have reached the heights of our possible prosperity, that no one can advance in education or in his intellectual level or anything else.

We say: we are on the way, and we are doing it with sound, decent, fiscal policies—with sound methods that will stand as long as the nation will stand.

They propose get-rich-quick policies, and pie-in-the-sky promises that have no validity whatsoever.

This, I maintain, is the difference between us.

Now, through these past four years, there has been one subject that this Administration has lived with, worked with, done more with, than any other; and that is, trying to develop and build the road to peace.

Without peace, we cannot have these things that we have been enjoying the past four years. We cannot have lowered taxes, we cannot have prosperity, we cannot have confidence among ourselves.

Unless in our generation the world can solve this fearful dilemma, and choose rightly between annihilation and permanent peace, then the future of this country—indeed, of mankind—is bleak indeed.

We maintain it can be done.

We believe that with the strength of America behind the effort, with every man and woman doing their best to help along the way, we can be strong—and from a position of strength can gradually bring about those conditions that we must bring about, if this world is to be fruitful and serve the purposes and best aspirations of men.

With respect to this question of peace: four years ago I promised you to work faithfully—to work with all the force and dedication at my command—in order to win a just peace, a lasting peace.

That pledge, I say most earnestly, we have faithfully kept.

I am profoundly convinced of this: all that concerns us today, in our homes, in our jobs, in our country, is as nothing compared to the awesome choice now awaiting the decision of mankind.

For the race of man, if there is no peace, there will be no hope. The building of that peace is my all-embracing goal.

It is my determined, unshakeable, fixed purpose—and so it will ever remain.

Three and a half years ago we ended the Korean war. Since then our people have not known the tragedy of daily casualty lists. But as we look to the future, we know that the risks of new Koreaes are sure to be there.

Yet we know also: from Iran, from Guatemala, from Indo-China, from Formosa, from Trieste—that difficult though our road may be, we can—by dedication and endless patience—reach

solutions to world tensions by means short of war, when those most affected do not become completely unreasonable.

Now, my fellow citizens, even as we speak this day of our hopes and strivings for peace and justice in the world, we know that there persists real and present danger to that peace. This danger is in various places, none more critical at this moment than at the ancient crossroads of the world, the Mid-East, where old civilizations meet and ancient animosities flare anew. Fears and hatreds deeply divide nations, with all of whom America would be, hopes to be, and seeks to be, a friend.

Only yesterday I repeated on behalf of America a solemn warning to the people in that area, that America and all the civilized world expects the peace to be kept.

The news in this area is not good. But I do say this: In this specific case, as in all our efforts throughout the world for a just and lasting peace, here is my solemn pledge to you: by dedication and patience we will continue, as long as I remain your President, to work for this simple—this single—this exclusive goal.

Now, as I repeat on behalf of Mamie and myself our gratitude for your heartwarming welcome, I want to say again that to come back to this Old Dominion—my mother's State—is always a tremendous privilege. And because it was her State, I would like to ask you a special favor.

There remain between now and November 6th a few days in which all of us can work to make the decision of America, no matter what it may be, more decisive, more representative, of our whole national thought.

So my request is this: first, of course, that you vote. Next, that each of you between now and next Tuesday spend your time trying to get any of those who otherwise might not vote to the polls, so that they register their belief in America, show their respect for the priceless right of voting—and making the decision of America that of all, rather than just a part of our country.

For I tell you this: not only would I accept completely and confidently any decision that all America makes, but I do believe

that there is something especially thrilling—especially wonderful—which each of us can experience as he walks into the secret place and says, “Here is my decision for America”—whether it be, in my own case, for my side—or the other. I hope that every citizen will experience that great thrill—that great privilege.

Thank you. Goodnight.

[*After an ovation the President added—*]

Due to the fact that I didn’t pay as close attention to my script as I should have, I inadvertently overlooked the opportunity to say a good word for your Congressional candidate in your District: Mr. Cabell. I apologize both to him and to you, because he would make a good Congressman.

NOTE: The President spoke at 6:00 p. m. His opening words “Chairman Hatcher, Mr. Robertson” referred to Robert V. Hatcher, Chairman of Executive Committee, Virginia Democrats for Eisenhower, and Walter S. Robertson, Assistant Secretary of State.

281 ¶ Telegram to Members of Republican Organizations Regretting Need for Canceling an Airport Meeting. *October 30, 1956*

I SEND YOU this message with exceeding regret. I was looking forward with anticipation and pleasure to revisiting Texas not only to thank the people of the State once again for honoring me with their support four years ago, but also to discuss with them both our accomplishments these last four years and our programs for the future.

The turn of events yesterday leaves me no option—in the interest of working for peace—but to remain at the White House Wednesday to deal with the situation developing in the Middle East.

I know that you—your associates who have worked with you in making arrangements for my visit—and our friends in Texas

will fully understand the need for this change. To all concerned—and especially to the citizens of Texas—please extend my deepest regrets that my visit to your State is not now possible.

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

NOTE: This and similar telegrams were sent to several members of the Citizens for Eisenhower and Democrats for Eisenhower organizations in Texas, Oklahoma, and Tennessee. The meetings had been scheduled for October 31.

282 ¶ Radio and Television Report to the American People on the Developments in Eastern Europe and the Middle East. *October 31, 1956*

[Delivered from the White House at 7:00 p. m.]

My Fellow Americans:

Tonight I report to you as your President.

We all realize that the full and free debate of a political campaign surrounds us. But the events and issues I wish to place before you this evening have no connection whatsoever with matters of partisanship. They are concerns of every American—his present and his future.

I wish, therefore, to give you a report of essential facts so that you—whether belonging to either one of our two great parties, or to neither—may give thoughtful and informed consideration to this swiftly changing world scene.

The changes of which I speak have come in two areas of the world—Eastern Europe and the Mid-East.

I.

In Eastern Europe there is the dawning of a new day. It has not been short or easy in coming.

After World War II, the Soviet Union used military force to impose on the nations of Eastern Europe, governments of Soviet choice—servants of Moscow.

It has been consistent United States policy—without regard to political party—to seek to end this situation. We have sought to fulfill the wartime pledge of the United Nations that these countries, over-run by wartime armies, would once again know sovereignty and self-government.

We could not, of course, carry out this policy by resort to force. Such force would have been contrary both to the best interests of the Eastern European peoples and to the abiding principles of the United Nations. But we did help to keep alive the hope of these peoples for freedom.

Beyond this, they needed from us no education in the worth of national independence and personal liberty—for, at the time of the American Revolution, it was many of them who came to our land to aid our cause. Now, recently the pressure of the will of these peoples for national independence has become more and more insistent.

A few days ago, the people of Poland—with their proud and deathless devotion to freedom—moved to secure a peaceful transition to a new government. And this government, it seems, will strive genuinely to serve the Polish people.

And, more recently, all the world has been watching dramatic events in Hungary where this brave people, as so often in the past, have offered their very lives for independence from foreign masters. Today, it appears, a new Hungary is rising from this struggle, a Hungary which we hope from our hearts will know full and free nationhood.

We have rejoiced in all these historic events.

Only yesterday the Soviet Union issued an important statement on its relations with all the countries of Eastern Europe. This statement recognized the need for review of Soviet policies, and the amendment of these policies to meet the demands of the people for greater national independence and personal freedom.

The Soviet Union declared its readiness to consider the withdrawal of Soviet “advisers”—who have been, as you know, the effective ruling force in Soviet occupied countries—and also to consider withdrawal of Soviet forces from Poland, Hungary and Rumania.

We cannot yet know if these avowed purposes will be truly carried out.

But two things are clear.

First, the fervor and the sacrifice of the peoples of these countries, in the name of freedom, have themselves brought real promise that the light of liberty soon will shine again in this darkness.

And second, if the Soviet Union indeed faithfully acts upon its announced intention, the world will witness the greatest forward stride toward justice, trust and understanding among nations in our generation.

These are the facts. How has your government responded to them?

The United States has made clear its readiness to assist economically the new and independent governments of these countries. We have already—some days since—been in contact with the new Government of Poland on this matter. We have also publicly declared that we do not demand of these governments their adoption of any particular form of society as a condition upon our economic assistance. Our one concern is that they be free—for their sake, and for freedom’s sake.

We have also—with respect to the Soviet Union—sought clearly to remove any false fears that we would look upon new governments in these Eastern European countries as potential military allies. We have no such ulterior purpose. We see these peoples as friends, and we wish simply that they be friends who are free.

II.

I now turn to that other part of the world where, at this moment, the situation is somber. It is not a situation that calls for

extravagant fear or hysteria. But it invites our most serious concern.

I speak, of course, of the Middle East. This ancient crossroads of the world was, as we all know, an area long subject to colonial rule. This rule ended after World War II, when all countries there won full independence. Out of the Palestinian mandated territory was born the new State of Israel.

These historic changes could not, however, instantly banish animosities born of the ages. Israel and her Arab neighbors soon found themselves at war with one another. And the Arab nations showed continuing anger toward their former colonial rulers, notably France and Great Britain.

The United States—through all the years since the close of World War II—has labored tirelessly to bring peace and stability to this area.

We have considered it a basic matter of United States policy to support the new State of Israel and—at the same time—to strengthen our bonds both with Israel and with the Arab countries. But, unfortunately through all these years, passion in the area threatened to prevail over peaceful purposes, and in one form or another, there has been almost continuous fighting.

This situation recently was aggravated by Egyptian policy including rearmament with Communist weapons. We felt this to be a misguided policy on the part of the Government of Egypt. The State of Israel, at the same time, felt increasing anxiety for its safety. And Great Britain and France feared more and more that Egyptian policies threatened their “life line” of the Suez Canal.

These matters came to a crisis on July 26th of this year, when the Egyptian Government seized the Universal Suez Canal Company. For ninety years—ever since the inauguration of the Canal—that Company has operated the Canal, largely under British and French technical supervision.

Now there were some among our allies who urged an immediate reaction to this event by use of force. We insistently urged

otherwise, and our wish prevailed—through a long succession of conferences and negotiations for weeks—even months—with participation by the United Nations. And there, in the United Nations, only a short while ago, on the basis of agreed principles, it seemed that an acceptable accord was within our reach.

But the direct relations of Egypt with both Israel and France kept worsening to a point at which first Israel—then France—and Great Britain also—determined that, in their judgment, there could be no protection of their vital interests without resort to force.

Upon this decision, events followed swiftly. On Sunday the Israeli Government ordered total mobilization. On Monday, their armed forces penetrated deeply into Egypt and to the vicinity of the Suez Canal, nearly one hundred miles away. And on Tuesday, the British and French Governments delivered a 12-hour ultimatum to Israel and Egypt—now followed up by armed attack against Egypt.

The United States was not consulted in any way about any phase of these actions. Nor were we informed of them in advance.

As it is the manifest right of any of these nations to take such decisions and actions, it is likewise our right—if our judgment so dictates—to dissent. We believe these actions to have been taken in error. For we do not accept the use of force as a wise or proper instrument for the settlement of international disputes.

To say this—in this particular instance—is in no way to minimize our friendship with these nations—nor our determination to maintain those friendships.

And we are fully aware of the grave anxieties of Israel, of Britain and of France. We know that they have been subjected to grave and repeated provocations.

The present fact, nonetheless, seems clear: the action taken can scarcely be reconciled with the principles and purposes of the United Nations to which we have all subscribed. And, be-

yond this, we are forced to doubt that resort to force and war will for long serve the permanent interest of the attacking nations.

Now—we must look to the future.

In the circumstances I have described, there will be no United States involvement in these present hostilities. I therefore have no plan to call the Congress in Special Session. Of course, we shall continue to keep in contact with Congressional leaders of both parties.

I assure you, your government will remain alert to every possibility of this situation, and keep in close contact and coordination with the Legislative Branch of this government.

At the same time it is—and it will remain—the dedicated purpose of your government to do all in its power to localize the fighting and to end the conflict.

We took our first measure in this action yesterday. We went to the United Nations with a request that the forces of Israel return to their own land and that hostilities in the area be brought to a close. This proposal was not adopted—because it was vetoed by Great Britain and by France.

The processes of the United Nations, however, are not exhausted. It is our hope and intent that this matter will be brought before the United Nations General Assembly. There—with no veto operating—the opinion of the world can be brought to bear in our quest for a just end to this tormenting problem. In the past the United Nations has proved able to find a way to end bloodshed. We believe it can and that it will do so again.

My fellow citizens, as I review the march of world events in recent years, I am ever more deeply convinced that the processes of the United Nations represent the soundest hope for peace in the world. For this very reason, I believe that the processes of the United Nations need further to be developed and strengthened. I speak particularly of increasing its ability to secure justice under international law.

In all the recent troubles in the Middle East, there have indeed been injustices suffered by all nations involved. But I do not

believe that another instrument of injustice—war—is the remedy for these wrongs.

There can be no peace—without law. And there can be no law—if we were to invoke one code of international conduct for those who oppose us—and another for our friends.

The society of nations has been slow in developing means to apply this truth.

But the passionate longing for peace—on the part of all peoples of the earth—compels us to speed our search for new and more effective instruments of justice.

The peace we seek and need means much more than mere absence of war. It means the acceptance of law, and the fostering of justice, in all the world.

To our principles guiding us in this quest we must stand fast. In so doing we can honor the hopes of all men for a world in which peace will truly and justly reign.

I thank you, and goodnight.

283 ¶ Address in Convention Hall, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. *November 1, 1956*

Mr. Chairman, Senator Duff, My Fellow Americans:

Our time of national political debate is almost ended. The clamor of these days will soon subside. And your day of thoughtful decision swiftly nears.

We meet tonight, of course, in the name of a political party—and I am this party's leader.

Now as such—as this party's political leader—and as a fellow Pennsylvanian—I have the privilege of speaking a word about your Senator Duff. Six years ago, my friends, he was in the forefront of those who kept insisting to me that I had a political duty; and he further insisted if I would accept this call to duty, as he labeled it, that I would be elected.

This evening, in your name, I would like to say the same to him. And I hope that you send him back to Washington with a full complement of his partners in the Congress of the United States.

Now, though I am a party member, before all else, I am your President—responsible not to Republicans or to Democrats, but to all Americans. And I believe it is fitting—in this, my final formal address of this political campaign—to speak to you in this role and in this spirit. I speak to you of the faith and convictions that have guided me—and this Administration—in these past four years. And I make this my simple pledge: This same faith and these convictions of which I speak to you tonight will rule my future conduct—if it be your will that I serve you for the next four years.

We have spoken, these last weeks, of many of the serious labors of your government.

We have spoken of our abundance and our productive power—providing more rewarding work—for more people—than any people have ever known, anywhere in the world, any time in history.

We have spoken of the ways we strengthen the physical resources of our land: highways to join our cities, dams to harness our rivers, ports and waterways to carry our commerce. And we have spoken of all things deeply affecting the welfare of our people: social security and slum clearance—public housing and public health—civil rights and education.

We have spoken, too, of the characteristics and methods of your government these last four years. By this I mean: the integrity of public service—commanding the respect of all citizens—and the integrity of economic policies—guarding the real value of the earnings of all our citizens. And I mean also: the steady strengthening—not of central power—but of State and local government—upon which depends the very life of our Constitutional system.

And yet—even all these things are not enough. For they are not enough truly to define for what we live—and by what we live. All the historic precedents, the soaring graphs, the staggering statistics—these measure size more than substance. And the largeness and greatness of our nation would be almost a mockery—without a matching greatness of heart and largeness of vision as we look out upon the world.

Of these greater things, I speak to you tonight.

It seems to me right to do so here, in Philadelphia, where our forefathers defined the principles by which our nation was born and has ever lived.

There is further reason for such thoughts this night. Over all the din of our domestic debate, these last weeks, we have heard other sounds—louder still, and urgent with meaning—sounds from across the world. We have heard—with admiration and with hope—the challenging cry for freedom of the peoples of Hungary and of Poland. We have been reminded once again: this love of man for his freedom is the thing that no bullet can kill, no gallows strangle.

And now, in these last days, we have heard other sounds of less happy portent. We have heard—with deep dismay—the crack of rifle-fire and the whine of jet-bombers over the deserts of Egypt.

In such a world—at such a time—“a decent respect for the opinion of mankind”—in the words of our Declaration of Independence—requires that we state plainly the purposes we seek, the principles we hold.

In June of 1776, Richard Henry Lee, rising before the Second Continental Congress to move his resolution for American independence, declared: “The eyes of Europe are fixed upon us; she demands of us a living example of freedom.”

One hundred eighty years later, we know that the eyes of the world are fixed upon us. And we must ask ourselves: what kind of an example of freedom do we give to our age? What are the true marks of our America—and what do they mean to the world?

We are a people born of many peoples. Our culture, our skills, our very aspirations have been shaped by immigrants—and their sons and daughters—from all the earth. Sam Gompers from England, Andrew Carnegie from Scotland, Albert Einstein from Germany—and Booker T. Washington and Al Smith—Marconi and Caruso—men of all nations and races and estates—they have made us what we are.

Men like these—men by the millions—have deepened and defined our very understanding of what is true and just in the wide world from which they came.

We know—as our forefathers knew—the firm ground on which our beliefs must stand. Freedom is rooted in the certainty that the brotherhood of all men springs from the Fatherhood of God. And thus, even as each man is his brother's keeper, no man is another's master.

So it is that the laws most binding us as a people are laws of the spirit—proclaimed in church and synagogue and mosque. These are the laws that truly declare the eternal equality of all men, of all races, before the man-made laws of our land. And we are profoundly aware that—in the world—we can claim the trust of hundreds of millions of people, across Africa and Asia—only as we ourselves hold high the banner of justice for all.

We are—proudly—a people with no sense of class or caste. We judge no man by his name or inheritance, but by what he does—and for what he stands.

And so likewise do we judge other nations. The right of no nation depends upon the date of its birth or the size of its power. As there can be no second-class citizens before the law of America, so—we believe—there can be no second-class nations before the law of the world community.

We—finally—look upon change, the ever-unfolding future, with confidence rather than doubt, hope rather than fear. We, as a people, were born of revolution. And we have lived by change—always a frontier people, exploring—if not new wilderness—then new science and new knowledge.

And from this springs our understanding of the world, our power to apply to the present the lessons of the past. In but a few years we have changed—we have advanced—from an isolationism spurning collective security—to our steadfast support of the United Nations—from a sense of self-sufficiency and remoteness from other nations—to the vivid awareness that our greatest purpose—a just and lasting peace—can be attained only as all other nations share this peace with us.

II.

Now, as we have witnessed in these very weeks momentous events throughout the world, we have applied these principles by which America must ever live—and strive to lead.

In Eastern Europe, we have seen the spirit of freedom—swift and strong—strike through the darkness. The peoples of Poland and Hungary, brave as ever through all their history, have offered their lives to live in liberty. And as the people have risen, so have new governments—and so has new hope.

In all of this the true intent of the Soviet Union seems not yet clear. We are—only today—troubled by news of new Soviet efforts to suppress the people of Hungary by force. If this be true, this is a black day of sorrow. But the Soviet Union has declared its readiness to reshape oppressive policies of a decade—and to contemplate withdrawal of its armed forces from Poland and Hungary and Rumania. If this be true—and if this be done—there could be in the making a bright new day of justice and of trust among all nations.

It is timely to ask: How have we practiced our principles at this historic moment?

We have always made clear that we would never renounce our hope and concern for these lands and peoples.

We have denounced—before the world forum of the United Nations—the Soviet use of force in its attempt to suppress these peoples' risings. And we ourselves have abstained from use of

force—knowing it to be contrary to both the interests of these peoples, and to the spirit and methods of the United Nations.

And we have welcomed these events seeking for no selfish advantage. We seek from these peoples neither material gain nor military alliance. We seek simply their freedom—for their sake, and for freedom's sake.

We have, in these same days, been submitted to a less hopeful—a much sterner—test of our principles. A test—I believe it is—by which the world will judge us, for long to come.

The United Nations—within 48 hours of its being called to consider the matter of foreign—Soviet—forces in Hungary—was called to judge the use of foreign forces in Egypt.

I, as your President, am proud—and I trust that you are proud—that the United States declared itself against the use of force in, not one, but both these cases.

I hope you may allow me, at this moment, to make a serious personal comment. I have been profoundly heartened by messages I have received in these past days from Congressional members of both political parties. These messages have pledged support—earnest support—of America's decision to choose a path of honor. This—I am thankful to say—is the same spirited bipartisan support I have received and welcomed at many like moments of decision in these past four years. Those moments of decision have involved Korea and Formosa, Guatemala, and the Summit at Geneva. And as a consequence of this bipartisan support, I assure you, my friends, I have been undisturbed by the strident voices of those few who seem to be seeking to turn world events to political profit. For I know—as we look out upon this world of ours: This America is not divided. And let me say, I shall continue to take all actions and decisions in these times—not as a candidate for office, but as President of all the people of the United States.

And now, a few words about the principles that we have followed in making particular decisions.

First, we cannot and we will not condone armed aggression—no matter who the attacker, and no matter who the victim.

We cannot—in the world, any more than in our own nation—subscribe to one law for the weak, another law for the strong; one law for those opposing us, another for those allied with us.

There can be only one law—or there will be no peace.

We do not speak—let me emphasize—in any angry spirit of self-righteousness.

We value—deeply and lastingly—the bonds with those great nations, those great friends, with whom we now so plainly disagree. And I, for one, am confident that those bonds will do more than survive. They can—my friends, they must—grow to new and greater strength.

But this we know above all: there are some firm principles that cannot bend—they can only break. And we shall not break ours.

We believe that integrity of purpose and act is the fact that must, most surely, identify and fortify the free world in its struggle against communism.

We cannot proclaim this integrity when the issue is easy—and stifle it when the issue is hard.

To do this would be to do something much worse than merely making our great struggle in the world more difficult. For if we were ever to lose that integrity—there would be no way to win a true victory in that struggle.

This would be a surrender that we shall not make.

My fellow citizens, we look beyond these days, and we say: We shall continue to practice the peace that we preach.

We believe that humanity must now cease preying upon itself. We believe that the power of modern weapons makes war not only perilous—but preposterous—and the only way to win World War III is to prevent it.

And so we continue to build our strength, not to wage war, but to be spared war. We can judge today the need of this strength by a simple question: would we feel safe or secure as a nation—if we—say five years ago in the past—had already ceased perfecting

our military weapons and even abandoned our military draft? That is no formula for peace. It is a design for disaster.

But let me say, we hold—firmly—to a vital paradox and to a fixed purpose: we maintain strength only in order some day to yield it—in league with all other nations. We shall go on working ceaselessly for the sure and safe accord that alone will make this possible. For we seek, above all else, to lift—from the backs of men and all nations—their terrible burden of armaments.

Finally—ever constant in the principles by which we live—we sense a special concern for the fate and fortune of those 700 million people—in 18 nations—who have won full independence since World War II. We know and respect both their national pride and their economic need.

Here we speak from the heart of our heritage. We, too, were born at a time when the tide of tyranny, running high, threatened to sweep the earth. We prevailed. And they shall prevail. For the everlasting promise of our own Declaration of Independence was what Lincoln declared it to be: “Liberty not alone to the people of this country, but hope for the world for all future time.”

These, then, are America’s greater purposes.

They spring from our final faith in freedom.

And they summon to our minds another moment of greatness. It was here in Philadelphia, and it was in 1787. The Constitutional Convention had come to its end. Its long deliberations were done, and the principles of our nation had been defined. At that moment, Benjamin Franklin pointed to the chair where Washington had been sitting. There—on the back—was painted, in brilliant gold, the half sun. And Franklin said quietly: “Now—at length—I have the happiness to know that it is a rising, not a setting sun.”

We—today—scan the wider horizon—of the whole world.

Proud of our principles, persistent in peace—we prayerfully may dare to see the same rising of the sun.

Thank you, my friends, very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 9:30 p. m. Councilman Wilbur H. Hamilton, Acting Chairman of the Republican City Committee, presided.

284 ¶ Statement by the President on Authorizing Food and Other Relief for the Hungarian People.

November 2, 1956

ALL AMERICA PAYS TRIBUTE in these troubled days to the courage and sacrifices of the Hungarian people in their determination to secure freedom. In struggling to obtain this goal for their country, the Hungarians are undergoing grave physical hardships and privations.

In order to help the Hungarian people in this hour of need, I am authorizing immediately an initial allocation of \$20 million from the funds appropriated by the Congress for emergency use, to be employed for food and other urgent relief necessary for the alleviation of their sufferings.

285 ¶ Letter to Horace M. Albright Concerning the Administration's Conservation Programs.

November 2, 1956

Dear Mr. Albright:

I was gratified indeed to receive your letter and the assurance it contained about the merits of the conservation programs of this Administration. I was brought up close to the soil of the State of Kansas, and my boyhood experiences taught me many of the

principles of true conservation. Our present programs have objectives which are in the interest of all of our people and are founded on principles which ought not to be the basis of partisan politics.

In every Department associated with the problems of soil and water, and of renewable resources, we have recommended programs designed in our best judgment to promote the objective so earnestly advocated by Gifford Pinchot—namely, to insure that both the use and conservation of natural resources should promote the greatest good for the greatest number.

Your commendation of the conservation programs we have established is all the more reassuring in the light of your long and eminent leadership in a cause so important to the present and future generations of Americans.

Sincerely,

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

NOTE: Mr. Albright is a former Director of the National Park Service. His letter of October 24, 1956, was released with the President's reply.

286 ¶ Statement by the President Following Secretary Dulles' Operation. *November 4, 1956*

I KNOW I SPEAK for all Americans—and for freedom-loving peoples the world over—in wishing the Secretary of State a speedy and full recovery from his operation.

As Secretary of State, Mr. Dulles has devoted himself unselfishly to his complicated and strenuous duties—even, as it is now apparent, at the risk of his own health. He has given untiringly of himself to the cause of world peace based on justice and, as such, is my invaluable associate.

Until he can resume his full duties, the splendid State Department staff, headed by Herbert Hoover, Jr.—that the Secretary

has developed—will operate in his stead. In doing so, they, and I, will constantly have the advantages of his experience, wisdom and courageous spirit.

287 ¶ Statement by the President on the Use of Soviet Forces in Hungary. *November 4, 1956*

I FEEL that world opinion which was so uplifted only a few days ago by the news that the Soviet Union intended to withdraw its forces from Hungary has now suffered corresponding shock and dismay at the Soviet attack on the peoples and Government of Hungary.

I met today with the Secretary of State at Walter Reed Hospital and later with the Acting Secretary of State, some of his staff, the Director of Central Intelligence Agency, and some of my staff to discuss the ways and means available to the United States which would result in:

1. Withdrawal of Soviet troops from Hungary.
2. Achieve for Hungary its own right of self-determination in the choice of its own government.

I have sent an urgent message to Premier Bulganin on these points.

There was likewise a thorough review of the Middle East situation and the measures now under way in the United Nations to restore peace in that area and to lay the groundwork for constructive solutions of its problems.

NOTE: For message to Premier Bulganin, see Item 291 below.

288 ¶ Letter to Reuben Cummings of Pleasantville, New Jersey, Concerning the Small Business Administration. *November 4, 1956*

[Released November 4, 1956. Dated October 30, 1956]

Dear Mr. Cummings:

It is most gratifying to my associates and me to have your account of satisfactory dealings with the Small Business Administration. I shall see that Administrator Barnes knows of your approval.

Thank you very much for this piece of evidence that our endeavors to be helpful to small business have met with some success.

Sincerely,

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

NOTE: Mr. Cummings' letter of October 18 was also released. He informed the President that he owned a small grocery and that he had tried without success to obtain a loan at the bank. Turning to the

Small Business Administration, he stated that he had received prompt, courteous attention to all his letters. "I had the feeling that the biggest businessman in the country couldn't receive better treatment than I got."

289 ¶ Letter to Mrs. Rose Richards of Greenwich, Connecticut, on Inflation. *November 5, 1956*

[Released November 5, 1956. Dated November 2, 1956]

Dear Mrs. Richards:

Thank you for your letter inquiring about the fight against inflation. This problem is one that has given me very real concern. It affects all Americans, but particularly people such as

yourself and your husband who either are now retired or are about to retire and must plan to live on limited savings or a fixed pension.

The starting place in this fight to keep down the cost of living and to curb inflation is to regard it as an important matter. This we do. I regret that the platform and campaign speeches of the opposition give it such low priority.

The success of our efforts is best demonstrated by the results. Since this Administration took office, the rise in the consumer's cost of living has been held down to less than three percent. This remarkable stability in the cost of living, in a peacetime economy operating at high levels, is a record to be thankful for and one that we seek to maintain. These results are in sharp contrast with the record of the preceding Administration, during which the cost of living rose almost fifty percent.

This fight we will continue by keeping a close check on government spending, avoiding going into the red year after year, watching credit and fiscal controls carefully to keep inflation from breaking loose once again, and in many other ways keeping a sensitive watch of the kind that has been so successful these past four years. This is a never-ending struggle, but I am sure we can keep on winning.

For the wage earner whose pay increases should purchase more and not less for himself and his family, for the retired person whose savings and pensions must be protected and for all Americans, we will continue our battle to secure a stable dollar.

Again, I thank you for taking the time to write to me.

Sincerely,

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

NOTE: Mrs. Richards' letter of October 2 was released with the President's reply.

290 ¶ Remarks at the Headquarters of the
Republican National Committee.

November 5, 1956

WHEN LEN TOLD ME that this afternoon many of you would be winding up your work and starting back to other pursuits and other activities, I asked him if I might come over to say a word or two. First of all, I think I should put it in terms of admiration because I believe that everybody who does a little more than his principal duties in turning out the great function of citizenship does deserve the admiration of all other Americans.

I think that this priceless privilege of just voting, for which so many people are now dying, is something that is brought home to all in its true value the more we do to preserve it and the more we work along that line in order to make certain that America shall live and free government shall live. I of course am highly gratified and in fact tremendously pleased and proud that so many people should gather together to work for the Administration of which I am the head and for its continuance in office. It is a vote of confidence that means much to anyone who is daily wrestling with the problem under the somber clouds of unrest and threat that now seem to hover over the world.

In any event, no matter what happens, I think we should not think of it too much as the time for rejoicing. Friends of ours, people in Eastern Europe, are enslaved and suffering, and there are still threats to the peace existing in Egypt. So we have not only to work for elections, to see that each citizen, so far as he can, does his duty on that day, but to study what it is that is going on in the world and how we may best help and make certain our own nation shall always preserve the path of honor.

So, because you people are trying to do your best in this whole complex problem of being an American citizen as well as enjoying inestimable rights and privileges that go with that citizenship, I thank you very, very sincerely. I've got just one more word to say.

The Republican National Headquarters goes on from year to year and month to month. The Citizens groups, so called, have been in the past sort of a temporary organization and I realize that you can't forever keep them organized in terms of a particular name because people pass. But I wish it were possible to keep the Citizens groups alive under the name of Citizens for Good Government, or whatever you want to call it. That would be a development to be highly commended because you would always have the backbone of an organization—the focus of your interests represented in each city, each county, each village of America. If that could be done, I think it would mark the real turning point in American politics.

NOTE: The President referred to Leonard W. Hall, Chairman of the Committee.

291 ¶ Message to Nikolai Bulganin, Chairman,
Council of Ministers, U.S.S.R., Urging Withdrawal
of Soviet Forces From Hungary.
November 5, 1956

[Released November 5, 1956. Dated November 4, 1956]

I HAVE NOTED with profound distress the reports which have reached me today from Hungary.

The Declaration of the Soviet Government of October 30, 1956, which restated the policy of non-intervention in internal affairs of other states, was generally understood as promising the early withdrawal of Soviet forces from Hungary. Indeed, in that statement, the Soviet Union said that "it considered the further presence of Soviet Army units in Hungary can serve as a cause for an even greater deterioration of the situation." This pronouncement was regarded by the United States Government

and myself as an act of high statesmanship. It was followed by the express request of the Hungarian Government for the withdrawal of Soviet forces.

Consequently, we have been inexpressibly shocked by the apparent reversal of this policy. It is especially shocking that this renewed application of force against the Hungarian Government and people took place while negotiations were going on between your representatives and those of the Hungarian Government for the withdrawal of Soviet forces.

As you know, the Security Council of the United Nations has been engaged in an emergency examination of this problem. As late as yesterday afternoon the Council was led to believe by your representative that the negotiations then in progress in Budapest were leading to agreement which would result in the withdrawal of Soviet forces from Hungary as requested by the government of that country. It was on that basis that the Security Council recessed its consideration of this matter.

I urge in the name of humanity and in the cause of peace that the Soviet Union take action to withdraw Soviet forces from Hungary immediately and to permit the Hungarian people to enjoy and exercise the human rights and fundamental freedoms affirmed for all peoples in the United Nations Charter.

The General Assembly of the United Nations is meeting in emergency session this afternoon in New York to consider this tragic situation. It is my hope that your representative will be in a position to announce at the Session today that the Soviet Union is preparing to withdraw its forces from that country and to allow the Hungarian people to enjoy the right to a government of their own choice.

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

NOTE: On releasing the text of this letter, the White House announced that the President had just received from Mr. Bulganin a letter which had been previously released to the press in Moscow. The White House announcement further states that the Bulganin letter "in an obvious at-

tempt to divert world attention from the Hungarian tragedy—makes the unthinkable suggestion that the United States join with the Soviet Union in a bi-partite employment of their military forces to stop the fighting in Egypt.” Mr. Bulganin’s letter is published in the Department of State Bulletin (vol. 35, p. 796).

292 ¶ Closed Circuit Television Remarks to a Group in Boston, Massachusetts, on Election Eve.
November 5, 1956

[Delivered from the White House Library at 8:55 p. m.]

Mr. Whittier, and My Friends:

First, let me say what a disappointment it has been for Mamie and me that we could not come to Boston this evening. I think I scarcely need explain to you how immediately pressing the affairs of government have been for the past few days, and I am sure you understand thoroughly why I thought it inadvisable, if not impossible, to make the trip.

Now, as I address you this evening, I want to say, first, a word to those friends who believe as I do about the affairs of government and the philosophy that it follows in dealing with its people and with others. It is that we need through all echelons of government support to carry out the programs that you know are classed as the Administration’s programs. And so I think it not out of place that I should commend to you the election of Sumner Whittier and your slate of State candidates in Massachusetts.

I am pleased, of course, for the chance to greet many old friends, Joe Martin, Chris Herter, and Senator Leverett Saltonstall. And then among your Congressional candidates, all of whom I hope you will elect—I want to mention especially Laurence Curtis, Gene Farnam, Mary Wheeler and Foster Doty. It is my conviction that those that you will vote on tomorrow

would be very helpful in pushing the program in which I so firmly believe.

Now in this campaign which is so rapidly drawing to a close, my associates and I have gone up and down the land contrasting the conditions of 1952 with those of today—1956.

We think the record is a very good one, but we have not done this, I assure you, just to be boasting. There is so much yet to be done that no honest, humble man would be boasting. But we have offered these proofs—these actions—that show where promises have been kept as proof of what we will do with the pledges we have yet to make.

So we have talked about our strength, and in both defensive strength and our economic strength, as proof of the keeping of pledges we have made in the past. We have done the same about the fiscal integrity of the government. That is why, also, we have talked about more jobs and better pay. We have talked about tax cuts, and we have talked about personal security. All of these things, as I say, are merely to recall to your minds that we have made pledges about them. We made similar pledges about the efforts to assist areas that have not been sharing equitably in the general prosperity of the country. As you know, we have developed many ways and means of helping them, including some tax cuts, other types of help, that involves government procurement, and so on.

So, all this persistent work has been done so as to translate into actual action, for the benefit of all Americans, the pledges that we have made to you in the past.

But there is so much to do. Many things yet unfinished. For example, we need schools—we need them desperately—we need them now. We need more help for these lagging areas—areas that have been damaged either by industries and factories moving to other areas or because industries in which they were engaged, such as mining, have suffered losses due to changes in the types of fuel used by industry.

Small business needs still more attention, and there will be bills submitted to the Congress for translating into laws to help them out.

New highways—we have got a highway program launched. Now we must push it, and that highway program itself does not represent at all everything that we must do.

Airports—new airports—new safety measures—means to make certain that air travel constantly increases in its safety as it increases in its speed.

Health and special programs for the aged are another of the things that still must be carried forward to new levels.

One thing that has lagged, although we have made some little progress, is immigration. Our immigration laws and how they affect the various areas of the world, and indeed how they affect us and our own future welfare—we will submit to the Congress renewed recommendations as to how these immigration laws may be better adjusted to our needs.

And of course, with all of this, we shall continue the effort—always—to keep government honest, fair and just. And that only fiscal integrity will characterize the monetary policies of your government.

Now, outside of the United States, the great objective of all true Americans remains: world peace.

Now, in recent days we have had many crises that have tested our readiness to stand by principle. Justice—justice is a necessary part of world peace, because without justice there will be no peace. And there must be one law for all, not just one for us and one for the others. We must have one law that rules us all.

And then, because of the events in Eastern Europe, our hearts have gone out to the people of Poland, and to Hungary, and we shall have given them the promise, not only that we shall never forget them and hold them dear in our hearts, but we have made offers of economic help—food, shelter, clothing, medicines—which we sincerely hope they may be able to accept.

So in those two areas we rejoice that two of the great Cardinals—symbols of freedom and the desire for liberation—two others have recently been at least temporarily liberated: the great Cardinals, both of Poland and Hungary.

So, alive to the needs of people, we will keep working for the kind of peace that we have always promised you—one that all the world can participate in.

Now, in the months ahead, we will need your support just as much as we have in this campaign. For the support you have given us, we thank you sincerely. But if we are all going to work together, we must start out by voting tomorrow. Indeed, no matter how you vote, be sure you vote. Because tonight I can assure you: In all the world there is no privilege that is more priceless and more sought after than the privilege that is yours tomorrow.

To keep it alive—for ourselves, for our children, for our country—for freedom: exercise it. Because, by exercising it, you will preserve it.

Thank you very much, and goodnight.

NOTE: The President's opening words referred to Lieutenant Governor Sumner Whittier, Republican candidate for Governor.

293 ¶ Radio and Television Remarks on Election Eve. *November 5, 1956*

[Broadcast from the White House Library at 11:45 p. m.]

My Friends all over America:

Four years ago on election eve, Pat and Dick, Mamie and I were privileged to meet in a little meeting like this and talk through television to the mass of Americans, not only those who were gathered in the rallies of that night, who had been supporting and working for our program all through that campaign, but

Americans who happened to be looking into their televisions that evening. We told what we had been doing and what we wanted to do for the next four years. We did that in Boston.

We wanted to go back there tonight. But the pressures of business—some of the crises in the world today—have defeated that ambition, and so tonight we are meeting in much the same kind of little get-together, but in the White House, instead of in Boston. We regret deeply we couldn't go to Boston and stop at Hartford on the way, as we had planned.

As a matter of fact, one of the disappointments of this campaign was that I couldn't go to the State of my birth, Texas. I had to cancel that engagement, and on the way back I wanted to visit two other States that had honored me with their support—Dick and me—in 1952. That was in Tennessee and Oklahoma. But there the wish will just have to be accepted for the deed—because we simply couldn't do it.

Now, in these past four years, as I have been working here in the White House, I have—with others of my associates and friends—worked out a simple set of principles that we try to apply to every problem of government that we meet.

The first of these is very simple—very true—as all of you know. And it is this: the individual is of supreme importance.

Now, as you apply the principle of individual dignity and importance to the problems of government, you find that you have constantly a greater respect for the local government, the government that is closer to that individual. On top of that, you have great confidence in the abilities, the initiative and energies of 168 million people to do the job of developing America.

Government's function is to provide the climate in which those people can work in confidence and security.

And then the next principle that we observed is this: the spirit of our people is the strength of our nation.

Strength is not just in arms and guns and planes. It is not just in factories and in fertile farms. It is in the heart—the heart that venerates the heritage we have from our fathers—the herit-

age of freedom—of self-government. That is the basic strength of America.

The next principle is: America does not prosper unless all Americans prosper. And so, while we believe that many groups have special problems, under our principle none has special privileges. Everything is settled on the basis of what is good for all of us—every American man, woman and child, whatever his station, his calling, his religion, or his race.

Next, we believe that government must have a heart as well as a head. By this we mean that government must concern itself in pointing the way and leading the way to those great social security programs, to the health of our people—the education of our people—to make certain that all these are available as an average American citizen has a right to expect them.

And then we wrote another statement that we call a principle. It was this: Courage and principle, cooperation and practice make freedom a positive thing.

I might apply this principle for you to the problem of civil rights. We believe, with the Constitution, in the equality before the law of every single American. In making this a reality in this day and time, we believe in cooperation. We believe that in getting the cooperation that comes about from willing working together of Americans, you achieve much more than you do just by writing a hard and fixed dictum of law and say: everybody must conform.

Force is often not the best way to get a thing done, as we have found out in our international affairs. We must secure the cooperation of those people who have the same values in life.

Our next principle is this: the purpose of government is to serve—never to dominate. This means that conscience rather than force is the key to action, whether it be something you are contemplating at home or indeed in a conference among heads of state abroad.

And then we feel this: to stay free, we must stay strong.

And again, I don't mean merely military strength. We must

have that economic strength that allows each of us to increase his standard of living, to look out for his children, to see that they are educated, to provide a healthful life where there is ample opportunity for recreation, intellectual advancement, and the development of real spiritual strength.

That is the kind of thing we are talking about.

And we believe, under God, in the cause of freedom and justice and peace for all peoples.

We understand clearly that no single nation in this world may have peace unless all travel that same road. Because peace is something that must be universal or it doesn't exist.

Now, I know of no single principle that is more important than this one. Because, my friends, everything that happens abroad these days affects us here at home. We have found this to be especially true lately—our tensions, our anxieties, our concerns for people that are being downtrodden, people that are being ruthlessly exploited, even killed for their love of freedom. That affects us, because, again, we know that just like peace, freedom is indivisible, because it is free people that want to keep the peace. It's people that have to fight wars; therefore, people don't want war. Therefore, any free government is one that can be trusted.

So we have a very large stake in the freedom of every people—wherever they may be, just as we do in our own. We do not believe in second-class citizens. And there can be no second-class nations. Before the law all are equal; let us remember that.

Now tomorrow is the day that we practice the privilege of free voting. When we stop to think that tonight there are thousands of people ready to risk their lives—actually dying—for this priceless privilege, it seems almost redundant for any of us to have to be reminded that it is a priceless privilege that can be preserved best only through exercising it.

If we don't vote, then we are forfeiting one of the great privileges we have, of participating in the decisions of this country.

I am not speaking now of how you vote. I am talking about the act itself. To be a free person to exercise that right so that you will be using your best judgment for the benefit of yourselves, your children, your country—the entire future—for the whole world, that is the thing that we must do.

So, if I could make one request of all of you this evening, it would be merely this: That when you wake up in the morning, start telephoning any friend that you think may have overlooked the fact that it is election day and that he should vote. Do this even before you go to the polls yourself. And then go there and register your decision.

I will tell you one thing: whatever that decision is, the four people in this room—Pat and Dick, and Mamie and I—will accept it not only wholeheartedly, but we will continue to do our best, no matter in what capacity we may be serving, to be true Americans.

And no person can aspire to a greater privilege and a greater honor.

You have done me a very great courtesy in allowing me to come into your living rooms this evening. I thank you sincerely.

God bless each of you—and goodnight.

294 ¶ Radio and Television Remarks Following the Election Victory. *November 7, 1956*

Mr. Chairman, Mr. Vice President, my very good friends in this audience and everywhere in the United States to whatever areas my voice reaches:

This is a solemn moment. The only thing I should like to say about this campaign is this: It is a very heart-warming experience to know that your labors—your efforts—of four years have achieved that level where they are approved by the United States of America in a vote.

Such a vote as that cannot be merely for an individual, it is for principles and ideals for which that individual and his associates have stood and have tried to exemplify.

To all the people of the United States who have understood what the Administration—the Republican Party—has been trying to do in these past four years, and consequently have worked so hard for the re-election of that Administration, my most grateful thanks.

The only thing I can say to all the people—all the Americans who have voted that ticket which puts us back into the same positions of responsibility—I can only say, it is our earnest prayer that nothing we can ever do—or shall ever do—will betray that trust.

And now let me say something that looks to the future: I think that modern Republicanism has now proved itself. And America has approved of modern Republicanism.

And so, as we look ahead—as we look ahead to the problems in front, let us remember that a political party deserves the approbation of America only as it represents the ideals, the aspirations and the hopes of Americans. If it is anything less, it is merely a conspiracy to seize power. And the Republican Party is not that!

Modern Republicanism looks to the future. Which means it looks to that area—that time—in which our young are most interested. And this means that it will gain constantly new recruits from the youngest of our voters. And as such, as long as it remains true to the ideals and the aspirations of America, it will continue to increase in power and influence for decades to come. It will point the way to peace among nations, and to prosperity—advancing standards here at home in which everybody will share, regardless of any accident of birth, of station, of race, religion, or color.

And if we cling to these ideals, if we uphold them, if we fight for them, then I say: Republicans deserve, then, the vote of confidence that Republicans, friendly Democrats, and Independents, have given us this day.

My friends, I conclude with a pledge: with whatever talents the good God has given me, with whatever strength there is within me, I will continue—and so will my associates—to do just one thing: to work for 168 million Americans here at home—and for peace in the world.

NOTE: The President spoke at the Sheraton-Park Hotel, Washington, D. C., at 1:50 a. m. His opening words "Mr. Chairman," referred to Leonard W. Hall, Chairman of the Republican National Committee, who introduced the Vice President. The Vice President then introduced the President.

295 ¶ Message to Prime Minister Ben-Gurion
Urging Withdrawal of Israeli Forces in Egypt.
November 8, 1956

[Released November 8, 1956. Dated November 7, 1956]

Dear Mr. Prime Minister:

As you know, the General Assembly of the United Nations has arranged a cease-fire in Egypt to which Egypt, France, the United Kingdom and Israel have agreed. There is being dispatched to Egypt a United Nations force in accordance with pertinent resolutions of the General Assembly. That body has urged that all other foreign forces be withdrawn from Egyptian territory, and specifically, that Israeli forces be withdrawn to the General Armistice line. The resolution covering the cease-fire and withdrawal was introduced by the United States and received the overwhelming vote of the Assembly.

Statements attributed to your Government to the effect that Israel does not intend to withdraw from Egyptian territory, as requested by the United Nations, have been called to my attention. I must say frankly, Mr. Prime Minister, that the United States views these reports, if true, with deep concern. Any such

decision by the Government of Israel would seriously undermine the urgent efforts being made by the United Nations to restore peace in the Middle East, and could not but bring about the condemnation of Israel as a violator of the principles as well as the directives of the United Nations.

It is our belief that as a matter of highest priority peace should be restored and foreign troops, except for United Nations forces, withdrawn from Egypt, after which new and energetic steps should be undertaken within the framework of the United Nations to solve the basic problems which have given rise to the present difficulty. The United States has tabled in the General Assembly two resolutions designed to accomplish the latter purposes, and hopes that they will be acted upon favorably as soon as the present emergency has been dealt with.

I need not assure you of the deep interest which the United States has in your country, nor recall the various elements of our policy of support to Israel in so many ways. It is in this context that I urge you to comply with the resolutions of the United Nations General Assembly dealing with the current crisis and to make your decision known immediately. It would be a matter of the greatest regret to all my countrymen if Israeli policy on a matter of such grave concern to the world should in any way impair the friendly cooperation between our two countries.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

NOTE: In replying to the President, Prime Minister Ben-Gurion stated, "In view of the United Nations Resolutions regarding the withdrawal of foreign troops from Egypt and the creation of an international force, we will, upon conclusion of satisfactory arrangements with the United Nations in connection with this in-

ternational force entering the Suez Canal area, willingly withdraw our forces."

The full text of the Prime Minister's reply, released with the President's message, is published in the State Department Bulletin (vol. 35, p. 798).

296 ¶ Statement by the President Concerning the Admission of Refugees From Hungary.

November 8, 1956

FEW EVENTS of recent times have so stirred the American people as the tragic effort of Hungarian men and women to gain freedom for themselves and for their children. The brutal purge of liberty which followed their heroic struggle will be long and sorrowfully remembered, not only by those directly suffering from that brutality, but also by all humans who believe in the dignity of man.

Our immediate concern must be for those whose suffering we, the members of the free world, can effectively alleviate. These are the thousands of escapees who have successfully made their way out of Hungary during the past week. They are older people; they are women; they are children—and many of them are suffering wounds inflicted by the guns of Imperialist Communism.

It is heartening to witness the speed with which free nations have opened their doors to these most recent refugees from tyranny. In this humanitarian effort our own nation must play its part. I have therefore directed the Administrator of the Refugee Relief Act to process as many as 5,000 Hungarian refugees as expeditiously as possible. This effort requires the most active help of the great voluntary agencies and other humanitarian organizations, of State and local governments, and of individuals everywhere. I know that the American people will rally wholeheartedly to this great cause.

297 ¶ Letter Accepting Resignation of Arthur F. Burns as Chairman, Council of Economic Advisers.
November 13, 1956

[Released November 13, 1956. Dated November 12, 1956]

Dear Arthur:

While I have known for some weeks that your departure from public service was imminent, I confess to being unprepared for the actual receipt of your letter of resignation. In view of the personal factors involved, however, I have no alternative but to accept it as you requested. This I do with great reluctance.

You have made a unique contribution to the labors of this Administration in the area of economic growth and stability where our efforts have been rewarded with gratifying success. Your intellectual proficiency and skill, together with your strength of character and resolute spirit, have in a special way enlisted economics in the nation's service. And you have done so in a manner which demonstrates that economics and equity can be allies and not antagonists. If the day ever comes when sound economic policies fail to serve the ends of social justice, our form of society will be in grave jeopardy.

I have been pleased with the manner in which the Council of Economic Advisers, under your leadership, has been re-established as a vital center of economic intelligence, as contemplated by the Employment Act of 1946. The wide respect in which the Council is held today, not only in the Executive Branch but throughout the government and the country as well, is ample evidence of your work in this regard.

My best wishes accompany you as you return to private life. My own personal sense of loss is eased by the knowledge that you will be available to help us from time to time in the days ahead.

With warm personal regard,

Sincerely,

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

NOTE: Mr. Burns' letter of November 12, 1956, follows:

Dear Mr. President:

When I joined your Administration early in 1953, I did not expect to remain in government service for more than a year or two. I have stayed much longer.

It has been a pleasure as well as a great privilege to work with you during these eventful years. By giving the Council of Economic Advisers every possible encouragement and opportunity to bring economic knowledge to bear on the Nation's problems, you have honored and enlarged

the scope of the economist's profession.

You know of the personal factors that prompt me to submit my resignation. If suitable arrangements can be worked out in time, I should like to leave by December 1.

I shall take with me precious memories of a government directed with exclusive regard to the enhancement of the Nation's strength and the welfare of its people.

With every good wish for your happiness and the continued success of your Administration, I am,

Respectfully,

ARTHUR F. BURNS

298 ¶ The President's News Conference of November 14, 1956.

THE PRESIDENT. Good morning. Please sit down.

This is the first time, ladies and gentlemen, that I have seen you since October—October 11, I believe. Since that date there have been two items of transcendent importance to the whole world that have been engaging our attention, yours as well as the Government's. They are, of course, the Mid-East and Hungary.

The first thing I should like to say is this: really for the first time in history an international machinery, set up by nations for the settlement of international disputes, is receiving a truly thorough test.

Consequently, everything that we say and do must bear in mind that behind all of these immediately important incidents is a hope and a desire of the world that some way can be found

to settle disputes around the conference table, not on the battlefield.

Consequently, in talking about these things this morning—I am sure we will be talking about them, I tell you in advance, as far as I can talk about them—I would be more than ready to do it, but the last thing we must do is to disturb any of the delicate negotiations now going on under the leadership of Secretary General Hammarskjöld. We must do nothing that could possibly delay his operations, impede them, or hurt them in any way.

I should like to take just a moment to say what he has been doing. The man's abilities have not only been proven, but a physical stamina that is almost remarkable, almost unique in the world, has also been demonstrated by a man who night after night has gone with 1 or 2 hours' sleep, working all day and, I must say, working intelligently and devotedly.

In the same way, although Foster Dulles is in the hospital, every day he is thinking and working on these problems. I visit him, his staff visits him. I am happy to say, by the way, that he is so far as health is concerned coming along rapidly and, apparently, to the entire satisfaction of the doctors.

Now, I think with that little background of—well, I will say one more thing before we go to questions.

Nothing, of course, has so disturbed the American people as the events in Hungary. Our hearts have gone out to them and we have done everything it is possible to, in the way of alleviating suffering.

But I must make one thing clear: the United States doesn't now and never has advocated open rebellion by an undefended populace against force over which they could not possibly prevail.

We, on the contrary, have always urged that the spirit of freedom be kept alive, that people do not lose hope. But we have never in all the years that I think we have been dealing with problems of this sort urged or argued for any kind of armed revolt which could bring about disaster to our friends.

With that background, we shall go to questions.

Q. Robert E. Clark, International News Service: Mr. President, you have said it is the duty of all United Nations members, including the United States, to oppose the introduction of any new forces in the Middle East. Does this apply to the intervention on the side of Egypt by so-called volunteers from the Soviet Union or Communist China?

THE PRESIDENT. I believe we said the introduction of any armed forces in the area of conflict, or arms, or munitions; so I am not going to say that the United States would make a unilateral determination of exactly what the offense was, if any.

Again, I believe, I stated in that statement that it would be the duty of the United Nations, which would include the United States, to oppose such an effort. So that in the United Nations, we would again try to be their supporters, in any such action.

Q. Merriman Smith, United Press: Mr. President, how, then, would our form of opposition to aggression in the Middle East or the introduction of new armed forces in the Middle East, to be more correct, what form would our opposition take beyond simply subscribing to resolutions in the U. N.?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I can't tell what it would be. But the United Nations, if you will read its charter, is not by any manner or means limited to resolutions, and in one instance, at least, showed that it was not so limited.

So I don't know exactly what we would do. It would depend upon the circumstances.

Q. Benjamin R. Cole, Indianapolis Star: Mr. President, this is an awfully little question, and I expect it takes an awfully big answer, but what are our chances for peace, sir?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, it is a little bit like the old story, a person can be awfully peaceful, but it takes two to make peace, exactly as it takes two to make a quarrel.

I don't believe that you could speculate too much on it other than to say this: the chances for peace are certainly related directly to the depth of our faith and the earnestness of our efforts.

We must not ever lose faith that men can do this. If men can develop weapons that are so terrifying as to make the thought of global war include almost a sentence for suicide, you would think that man's intelligence and his comprehension—and I don't think he has to be particularly philosophical to arrive at such an answer—would include also his ability to find a peaceful solution.

It must be done. The world unquestionably faces a dilemma. I think, on the one hand, there is the greatest future with the development of this atomic science, stretching out in front of the world that, any of us, we can't even possibly dream of what it will bring. But on the other side, if we don't do that, is something very terrible.

Q. David P. Sentner, Hearst Newspapers: Mr. President, do you consider the time has come for us to reappraise our foreign policy, particularly in relationship to Russia?

THE PRESIDENT. In what way do you mean? Reappraise foreign policy is a very vast subject.

Q. Mr. Sentner: Our relationship to Russia.

THE PRESIDENT. Do you mean—are you talking now specifically about the breaking of diplomatic relations or what are you——

Q. Mr. Sentner: It would appear that their so-called policy of peaceful cooperation has been more or less killed—their actions in Hungary——

THE PRESIDENT. Yes.

Q. Mr. Sentner: ——and their threats in the Middle East.

THE PRESIDENT. We have a very great central power here that has not complied with the standards set up by the United Nations with the charter as written.

Now, the question as to what must be done about that, we would, I think, want to again get the considered judgment of the nations of the world; I believe that at this moment, when we are trying so hard to quiet the exciting incidents to a possible greater

difficulty, we should not now bring up a thing as broad as the matter you are talking about.

We should first get this Egyptian thing out of the way, try to get all the help for the refugees from Hungary, and to get into Hungary as much as we can to help out these unfortunate people; get these things quieted down—then, I think, would be the proper time for the United Nations to see what do we do in the future along this line.

Q. Charles S. von Fremd, CBS News: Mr. President, you have voiced your objection to another Summit meeting at this time. However, if the Hungarian matter were added to the Middle East crisis in such a Summit meeting, would you think that it might be wise to hold one?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, again, I think the answer is largely the same.

What we are trying to do is to get the United Nations on a basis in the Mid-East that the immediately exciting cause of greater difficulty can be quieted.

I believe that to have Summit meetings when you have got something like this going on, and where the United Nations already has taken cognizance of the whole thing, would be a mistake. Now, this doesn't mean that I, by any means, foreclose meetings with these people for the future. I just think this is simply not the time to do it.

Q. Charles E. Shutt, Telenews: Mr. President, I wonder if you could give us your views about our relations with France and Britain, and the advisability of holding a Big Three meeting in the near future with them?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, we have talked about a Big Three meeting. We have not set up any definite plan or timing for any meeting of that kind.

Now, I continue to believe that our relationships with Western Europe are—I mean good relationships with Western Europe, strong relationships—are vital to the future of our own country.

We have differed with them on one specific point, and until this point is settled, because the United Nations has taken it over, I think that any meeting of ours would make it appear that we are going off onto some other subjects, when this important one is still ahead of us.

What I say about it is this: I am determined, with this out of the way, our friendships with these two countries are going to be stronger than ever, if I can bring it about.

Q. Garnett D. Horner, *Washington Star*: Mr. President, do you see any chance for you, yourself, to get in a Thanksgiving or any other kind of vacation any time soon?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, not at the moment, no.

After all, the Secretary of State is in the hospital and will certainly have to go away for a short rest and recuperation. If things would quiet down, why, I would certainly take advantage of the opportunity, I will tell you that. I would very much like to go. But the timing here again would be bad for the moment.

Q. John Herling, *Editors Syndicate*: Mr. President, when the uprisings in Poland and Hungary occurred, Vice President Nixon told an Occidental College audience on October 29 in California, that this proved the rightness of the "liberation position" of the Eisenhower administration. Now, in view of the latest developments, could you explain, sir, what the liberation position of the administration is?

THE PRESIDENT. I think it's been perfectly clear from way back in 1950, as far as I am concerned, and I happened to have had the administration when I was then in NATO.

I believe it would be the most terrible mistake for the free world ever to accept the enslavement of the Eastern European tier of nations as a part of a future world of which we approve. Now, we have said this in every possible way, and because of this we try to hold out to all the world the conviction that freedom will live, human freedom will live.

We have never asked, as I pointed out before, for a people to rise up against a ruthless military force; of course we think, on

the other hand, that the employment of such force is the negation of all justice and right in the world.

What I do say is the policy is correct in that we simply insist upon the right of all people to be free to live under governments of their own choosing.

Q. Edward P. Morgan, American Broadcasting Company: Mr. President, even if we succeed in preventing further warfare in the Middle East, the sorry facts seem to be, as assessed by western observers, that we have suffered a tremendous loss, we, meaning the West, and the Russians have made a tremendous gain. How do we propose to redress that balance or are we writing off as a fact the permanence of Russian influence in the Middle East?

THE PRESIDENT. I don't know that you could eliminate influence entirely, but I think that the free world today and, particularly, every small nation would be very, very careful about becoming too closely related to Russia. They have seen what can happen when Russia gains domination over the country.

There is much more to this question, I assure you, that has been asked, than one brief statement of that kind.

This is what I'd say: the United States has tried and will continue to try to be friends with every single nation in this area. We have helped in the past, we stand ready to help in the future, for every one of them that wants to live or abide by the general charter and directives of the United Nations.

Our help will be given and has been given without any conditions attached. No strings of economic or political imperialism are traceable to the efforts we have made to be friends with these people.

We believe this: that our efforts to be friends with both sides in the Arab-Israeli war are the best thing we can do for both sides in order to bring about friendships finally, and relations between them, because it is perfectly clear in the long run they need each other. The Arabs need the manufacturing capacity of Israel. Israel certainly cannot live isolated, trading with no one in the world except Europe and the United States.

So, far from giving up, the second that this is out of the way I want to intensify our efforts of understandings between these nations, the Arabs from one end to the other and with Israel, in order that we can bring about this state of, at least, toleration that will allow them to trade and, therefore, to raise their own standards of living.

And remember this one thing: we are trying to be friends with both sides. We don't pick a side in one of these quarrels.

A nation such as Russia, under a dictatorship, picks the side they want to woo for the moment, and they have to care nothing at all about the other side. Every move we make must be balanced by a consideration of justice for both sides. That is very clear, I think.

Q. Sarah McClendon, El Paso Times: Sir, this question has to do with internal politics. I wonder if you have or if you will use your influence in any way with Governor Shivers of Texas to try to win that Senate seat for the Republicans? Would you do that by asking him to call a special election or asking him to run for the office himself?

THE PRESIDENT. The internal affairs of the State of Texas are something that I would never dream of interfering with. [*Laughter*]

Q. Mrs. McClendon: Well, sir, I was thinking——

THE PRESIDENT. Now, if you say do I want a Republican Senator from Texas, yes.

Q. Raymond P. Brandt, St. Louis Post-Dispatch: Mr. President, on Tuesday night you spoke of Modern Republicanism. What are your plans for greater effort to bring about cooperation with a certain group of your party in Congress to assert your leadership for Modern Republicanism?

THE PRESIDENT. I would say this: in these 4 years ahead of us I intend to work for such a concept industriously and incessantly. I think that there is before the American people now, including even these people that you rather allowed to stay anonymous—[*laughter*]*—*that must convince even them that

some change in the understanding that the public has of the Republican Party is necessary.

Now, I think I can tell you in a few sentences what I think about Modern Republicanism.

It is a type of political philosophy that recognizes clearly the responsibility of the Federal Government to take the lead in making certain that the productivity of our great economic machine is distributed so that no one will suffer disaster, privation, through no fault of his own. Now, this covers the wide field of education and health, and so on.

We believe likewise in the free enterprise system. We believe that it is free enterprise that has brought these blessings to America.

Therefore, we are going to try our best to preserve that free enterprise, and put all of these problems in the hands of localities and the private enterprise of States wherever we can. It happens that the great difference, as I see it, between myself and people of a philosophy that believes in centralized government, is that I believe to have this free enterprise healthy, you must have, first, integrity in your fiscal operations of the Government; second, you must preserve a sound dollar or all of our plans for social security and pensions for the aged fall by the wayside, they are no good; and thirdly, in this dispersion of power.

Now, that, at home, as I see it, represents Modern Republicanism.

Q. Mr. Brandt: Mr. President, on that very point, in your first 4 years there was criticism that you made recommendations, as I recall it, remember it, and that you did not take personal leadership in working with Members of Congress.

THE PRESIDENT. Mr. Brandt, leadership is a word and a concept that has been more argued than almost any other I know.

I am not one of the desk-pounding type that likes to stick out his jaw and look like he is bossing the show. I would far rather get behind and, recognizing the frailties and the requirements of human nature, I would rather try to persuade a man to go

along, because once I have persuaded him he will stick. If I scare him, he will stay just as long as he is scared, and then he is gone. [*Laughter*]

Q. John Scali, Associated Press: Mr. President, do we have any information to confirm widespread reports that the Russians already have moved in some fighters and some weapons into the Arab countries in the past few weeks?

THE PRESIDENT. We know, of course, that they put MIGs, quite a long time ago, into Egypt, and we do know that when the British and the French moved in that these were dispersed somewhat to other fields.

We know that there are some of these machines at different places. But I think we have no authentic information of the particular kind you describe.

Q. Joseph R. Slevin, New York Herald Tribune: Mr. President, there is a debate among economists over the question of whether the United States can have a high production and high employment economy without rising prices. Do you believe that the United States can have a healthy economy if prices continue to rise at the rate of 2.8 percent every 44 months, as they have during the last 44, or do you believe that that price increase must be checked in the coming years?

THE PRESIDENT. Yes, I believe it must be checked. There are two types, of course—we refer to inflation, at least, generally in two of its aspects: one is just cheapened money, deficit spending, of borrowing from our children, from the future, and printing money against that, and that naturally brings rising prices because the money itself is cheaper; then, there are also the rising prices brought about by the efforts of all people to gain a bigger portion of the results of our great productivity; and, finally, you get to the point, and whether or not we have gotten to it yet, I don't know, where you cannot attract capital investment that will build the factories that give the whole 66, 67 million people their jobs, because lying behind every job in America is an invest-

ment of somewhere along the order of 15 to 17 thousand dollars. That money has got to be accumulated.

Consequently, if you continue going up too rapidly in one area, say, the labor area, then prices go up, and finally you get to a point where you just simply can't keep things in order, and some difficulty occurs.

Now, I believe this: a country such as ours, believing as it does in the freedom of people to work out their own fate, will develop, and probably has already developed in some quarters, at least, business and labor leadership that is sufficiently wise and farseeing to help solve this problem and keep it within bounds.

Q. Marvin L. Arrowsmith, Associated Press: Mr. President, to go back to your election night statement that your victory reflected an approval of Modern Republicanism, could you tell us in the light of that statement how you interpret the election of another Democratic-controlled Congress?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I simply say this: from my viewpoint, the United States has not yet been convinced that Modern Republicanism is with us and is going to be the guiding philosophy of the Republican Party.

Q. Frank van der Linden, Augusta Chronicle: Mr. President, you probably noticed the reason you don't have control of Congress is that you don't have as many members from the Southern States in proportion to your own popular vote there.

You carried a majority of the popular vote in the South.

Do you plan to rebuild the Republican Party in a modern way in the States like Georgia and Virginia to elect governors and congressmen there?

THE PRESIDENT. I will do every single thing I can; but there is an old saying, if you will forgive me again for quoting a military aphorism: you always reinforce success and never defeat. That would dictate that you would start with the States in which you have apparently made pretty good progress, reinforce them, and build them up, and the others will be bound to come along, I think.

Q. William McGaffin, *Chicago Daily News*: I would like to return to the Middle East for a minute, sir. You mentioned a while ago that our policy was to be friends to both sides, both the Israelis and the Arabs, and after this crisis has calmed down to try to get them to trade with each other.

THE PRESIDENT. Well—trade—I say that is long-term; you are not going to do that very quickly, I am sure.

Q. Mr. McGaffin: I know, sir, but what I wanted to ask you, many people feel that it is our failure to work out an overall solution to the basic problems in the Middle East, that it was our policy of sort of drifting there which brought this crisis on.

I wondered if we are going now to try to work out a long-range solution to such basic problems as the 900,000 Arab refugees, the undefined boundaries, all the problems that have been kicking around out there for the last 8 years?

THE PRESIDENT. I should like for you to go to the State Department, if you think we have been drifting on these problems, and I would like you to get a detailed account, if they can give it to you, of what's been going on.

Take the 900,000 refugees: I don't know of any problem that was placed in my lap earlier than that when I was first inaugurated; all the way through—the Eric Johnston plan for developing the Jordan River to the benefit of all, the study with every one of these nations of their problems, and an attempt to help them out.

As a matter of fact, up until the point, I would say, when the Egyptians had accepted Russian arms, we had every reason to believe that things were going along, and maybe we could prevent such a thing as this happening.

It did happen, and we have got to get over this hump before we can keep pushing ahead. But I don't think you will find any question of drifting in the Mid-East.

Q. Kenneth M. Scheibel, *Gannett Newspapers*: Mr. President, could you tell us whether you have been in communication with Marshal Zhukov in the interests——

THE PRESIDENT. No, I haven't—

Q. Mr. Scheibel: —of a settlement?

THE PRESIDENT. No, not since this thing.

Q. Edward T. Folliard, *Washington Post*: Mr. President, in 1954, as you traveled around the country, you warned against a split government. You used such expressions that a split government would mean stagnation, partisan cold war. Then, after the Democrats captured Congress, you acknowledged that language was too strong.

I noticed in this last campaign you asked people to vote for the straight Republican ticket but sounded no warnings. Now, did you foresee a Democratic Congress, or why the difference?

THE PRESIDENT. No. From the very beginning it was thought to be very close in both the Senate and the House.

Now, it never even occurred to me that I hadn't warned—what I was saying, in which I believe, this country knows who and which party to hold responsible when they have both the Legislature and the Executive in the same party hands.

If you will remember in this campaign time and again you had incidents come up where both sides were claiming credit or both sides were ducking, making alibis for the failure.

Now, I really believe that what we should have and you would normally expect—with such a big vote for a President, you would expect to bring in the House, at least, because they are all elected each year, and it is a popular vote that goes for the President. Consequently, you would expect that would happen, and then you would be held responsible.

Now, the only thing I say is, it is difficult, far more difficult, to hold anybody responsible when you don't have it in the same hands. I always have said that.

Q. John L. Steele, *Time Magazine*: Mr. President, returning to the Middle East for a moment, in August of 1955 Secretary Dulles offered a United States guarantee of the Israeli-Arab frontiers if the Arabian and Israeli Governments could reach an agreement, and also offered help in resettling the refugees.

Does that offer of a guarantee and help still pertain today? Is it still——

THE PRESIDENT. Yes, that was a rather long statement, as I recall, he made in August, and I don't remember all its details. But I would say this: I know of no reason for not sticking right with it.

Q. Mr. Steele: Including the guarantees?

THE PRESIDENT. If these conditions are brought about first; the guarantee was given on the certain conditions.

Q. William H. Lawrence, New York Times: Mr. President, in view of the voters' decision to continue split government—that is, a Democratic Congress and Republican Executive—do you regard the election returns as a mandate to push forward with the program that you have had, to re-examine it or to——

THE PRESIDENT. Well, Mr. Lawrence, I think if I didn't believe that this was somewhat of a mandate to me to push forward with what I have been trying to tell the United States is my policy, my beliefs, my convictions, and a program, that then I would be arrogating to myself a tremendous personal magnetism and standing that probably would make me about as egotistical as any man in the world.

If they don't approve what I stand for, I would not understand why they voted for me.

Therefore, I would say, of course, with all of the plans we have developed, not necessarily the details, but the type of farm program, school program, road program, everything in the United States regarding health, all of that sort of thing, I believe it is approved in general by the United States.

Moreover, I believe that the efforts, the untiring efforts, that this administration has made working through the United Nations to produce peace in the world and tranquillity have the thorough approval of our people in the States.

Merriman Smith, United Press: Thank you, Mr. President.

NOTE: President Eisenhower's ninety-ninth news conference was held in the Executive Office Building from 10:32 to 11:02 o'clock on Wednesday morning, November 14, 1956. In attendance: 258.

299 ¶ Statement by the President Announcing
Additional Steps To Accelerate the Development of
Nuclear Power Abroad. *November 18, 1956*

THIS NATION ATTACHES highest importance to the development of nuclear power both at home and abroad. We are determined that this product of man's inventiveness shall be made available to serve the people of the world.

We have taken many actions to this end. We have initiated and actively supported the formation of an International Atomic Energy Agency, we have negotiated bilateral agreements for cooperation with 37 countries, and we have expressed our support for European efforts to form an integrated atomic energy community. On February 22, 1956, I announced that I approved the recommendations of the chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission to make available 20,000 kilograms of uranium 235 for distribution abroad.

Today I have approved further important actions by the United States Atomic Energy Commission. These actions will set the terms and conditions on which nuclear fuel will be available under agreements for cooperation. These and other actions are designed to enable other nations or groups of nations to have firm assurance of the fuel supplies necessary to the continued operation of nuclear power installations, and thus to facilitate arrangements for financing.

Under these new actions, the United States will make available to other nations supplies of nuclear fuel at prices identical with those charged by the Atomic Energy Commission under our domestic nuclear power program.

One of the steps I have approved is an offer to purchase at specified prices plutonium and uranium 233 produced in reactors abroad that are fueled with material furnished under our agreements for cooperation. The materials so acquired by the United States will be used solely for peaceful purposes.

Today's actions, summarized in the attached statement by the Chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission, will permit closer estimate of net nuclear fuel costs and will add firmness to the planning now underway in friendly nations for nuclear power, thereby accelerating their atomic power development.

It will be our policy, of course, to seek to conduct our operations in support of nuclear power development abroad in consonance with the policy of the International Atomic Energy Agency, in whose endeavors we shall take our full part.

We shall strive ceaselessly to attain the day when the uses of the energy of the atom fulfill mankind's peaceful purposes.

NOTE: The statement by the Chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission, Lewis L. Strauss, listed the steps being taken to accelerate the development of nuclear power abroad un-

der the Atoms-for-Peace program. The complete text of the statement by Mr. Strauss is published in the State Department Bulletin (vol. 35, p. 926).

300 ¶ Letter to Attorney General Herbert Brownell, Jr., on Labor Dispute in the Maritime Industry. *November 24, 1956*

Dear Mr. Attorney General:

On November 22, 1956, by virtue of the authority vested in me by Section 206 of the Labor Management Relations Act, 1947 (Public Law 101, 80th Congress), I issued Executive Order 10689, creating a Board of Inquiry to inquire into the issues involved in labor disputes between employers (or associations by which such employers are represented in collective bargaining conferences) who are (1) steamship companies or who are engaged as operators or agents for ships engaged in service from or to Atlantic and Gulf ports, or from or to other ports of the United States or its territories or possessions, (2) contracting stevedores, (3) contracting marine carpenters, or (4) other em-

ployers engaged in related or associated pier activities, and certain of their employees represented by the International Longshoremen's Association (Independent).

Today I received the Board's written report in the matter. A copy of that report is attached hereto.

In my opinion these unresolved labor disputes have resulted in a strike affecting an entire industry or a substantial part thereof engaged in trade, commerce, transportation, transmission or communication among the several States and with foreign nations which strike, if permitted to continue, will imperil the national health and safety.

I therefore direct you, pursuant to the provisions of Section 208 of the Labor Management Relations Act, 1947, to petition in the name of the United States any District Court of the United States having jurisdiction of the parties to enjoin the continuance of such strike where such action is necessary to secure a resumption of trade, commerce, transportation, transmission or communication among the several States and the foreign nations, and for such other relief as may in your judgment be necessary or appropriate.

Sincerely,

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

NOTE: The Board of Inquiry's report, entitled "Report to the President on the Labor Dispute Involving Longshoremen and Associated Occupations in the Maritime Industry on the Atlantic and Gulf Coast" and

dated November 24, 1956, was released with the President's letter. Copies of the report, and of a final report dated January 23, 1957, were made available by the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service.

301 ¶ Remarks to a Group of Hungarian Refugees. *November 26, 1956*

I WANT to tell you that our country feels privileged in inviting you to the United States. We hope you have found nothing but courtesy and hospitality since you arrived.

The sufferings your people have gone through recently have served, from our standpoint at least, one good purpose—to make stronger the friendship we have always felt for your country and to bring us closer together in our hearts.

Recently, of course, the news from your country was particularly disturbing and shocking. Many thousands of your people have been taken from their homes by force and sent into exile at bayonet point.

This is the ultimate tyranny can do to a people. I want to tell you that this country not only resents it deeply but we will never agree that this is the kind of thing one country may do in justice to another.

We shall continue our efforts to try to help those who are coming out and, as you know, we have offered to send in supplies of food and medicine and other assistance to help those still in the country. We will continue to do that and we will be very, very glad to do so. And so, finally for your courtesy in coming down from Camp Kilmer to see me and to give me a chance to talk to you directly, my very grateful thanks.

NOTE: The President spoke in his office at the White House at 9 a. m.

302 ¶ Exchange of Messages Between the
President and Prime Minister Pibulsonggram of
Thailand on the Middle East and Hungary.
November 26, 1956

Your Excellency:

Your message was most gratifying. It is good to know that the strong desire of the American people and its government to do their utmost to bring an end to fighting and to reach a peaceful settlement is so fully appreciated by the government and people of Thailand. I am also encouraged by the knowledge that the people of our two countries share the same opinion on these world problems.

Sincerely yours,

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

NOTE: The Prime Minister's message of November 7, 1956, follows:

*The President
The White House
Washington, D. C.*

Throughout the critical situation in the Middle East and in Hungary His Majesty's Government and the Thai people have steadily recognised the good intention of the United States Government to endeavour to

do all it can to bring an end to hostilities and to arrange for a peaceful settlement under the auspices of the United Nations. I would like to extend to Your Excellency an expression of sincere thanks and appreciation of the Thai Government and people for the efforts you have made for the sake of world peace and to wish you continued good health and prosperity.

P. PIBULSONGGRAM

303 ¶ Statement by the President on Releasing Report on the Salk Poliomyelitis Vaccine.

November 28, 1956

SECRETARY FOLSOM'S REPORT on the Salk Poliomyelitis vaccine deserves the attention of every young adult—of every parent—in America.

The supply of vaccine is now plentiful.

I join with Secretary Folsom, the Surgeon General of the Public Health Service, and the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis in urging that the vaccine be used promptly—before the next poliomyelitis season arrives.

NOTE: Secretary Folsom's report points out that "because of public apathy, vaccine which would prevent paralysis or even death—next year—may lie unused." He urges that all children and young adults be vaccinated prior to "next summer's peak of polio incidence."

Mr. Folsom adds that since the vaccine was approved for public use, 18 months before, about 115 million doses had been released by the Pub-

lic Health Service. "Surveys show that among children vaccinated with only one or two doses, the incidence of paralytic poliomyelitis has been reduced about 75 percent. We can expect an even greater reduction as more and more persons receive three injections."

The President's statement and Secretary Folsom's report were released at Augusta, Ga.

304 ¶ Statement by the President in Support of Red Cross Disaster Appeal for Relief in Hungary and to Hungarian Refugees in Austria.

November 29, 1956

I URGE ALL AMERICANS generously to support the special Red Cross Disaster Appeal for \$5 million to aid in emergency relief both in Hungary and to Hungarian refugees in Austria.

The conditions of disaster and privation which require this emergency relief have been accurately described from day to day publicly by our news-reporting media. Amidst all their trials, the courage of the Hungarian people has been an inspiration to all freedom-loving peoples the world over.

By contributing to the Red Cross emergency campaign, each of us individually can express our sympathy and admiration for the brave Hungarian people.

NOTE: Released with this statement was a telegram from E. Roland Hariman, Chairman, American Red Cross, outlining the conditions requiring an immediate appeal for funds. The statement and the telegram were released at Augusta, Ga.

305 ¶ Letter to Harlow H. Curtice, Chairman, the President's Committee for Traffic Safety, on the Highway Modernization Program.

November 29, 1956

Dear Mr. Curtice:

I was very glad to learn that your Committee for Traffic Safety is planning to give increased emphasis to the need for organized citizen support, in all States and communities, of the accident prevention possibilities of the new highway modernization program.

The 1956 Federal-Aid Highway Act established a "grand plan" for the rebuilding of our obsolete road and street system. It provides substantial financial aid to the States over a thirteen year period for construction. In addition, the Federal government will do everything it properly can do to expedite the completion of the program. A safe and efficient road network is absolutely essential to curtailment of death and injury from accidents, as well as to the national defense and to our expanding economy.

Federal action is only the beginning, however. There is likewise the big and complex task of acquiring the necessary rights-of-way, of designing, building and operating the highways. These are responsibilities that belong primarily to the States themselves and their local communities. The 1956 Act wisely carried forward intact the traditional Federal-State partnership which has been so effective in the development of America's highway system.

On a program of this magnitude and urgency, obviously the State and local highway agencies face numerous problems which must be solved as promptly as possible. They will need all the help they can get. Most of all, they will need the kind of informed support which can only come from wide and thorough public understanding.

I am sure that through the leadership of your Committee and the many splendid safety organizations cooperating with it, a timely and valuable contribution can be made to this objective.

Sincerely,

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

NOTE: The President's letter was in reply to a letter from Mr. Curtice dated November 14, 1956. Both were included in the Augusta, Ga., release.

306 ¶ White House Statement Concerning the Admission of Additional Hungarian Refugees. *December 1, 1956*

THE PRESIDENT ANNOUNCED today that the United States will offer asylum to 21,500 refugees from Hungary. Of these, about 6500 will receive Refugee Relief Act visas under the emergency program initiated three weeks ago. The remaining 15,000 will be admitted to the United States under the provisions of Section 212 (d) (5) of the Immigration and Na-

tionality Act. When these numbers have been exhausted, the situation will be re-examined.

The President emphasized that the flight of refugees into Austria had created an emergency problem which the United States should share with the other countries of the free world. Because of this emergency, those refugees who seek asylum in the United States will be brought here with the utmost practicable speed.

The President pointed out that the immigration visas available for Hungarian escapees under the Refugee Relief Act are practically exhausted and that the emergency compels the only other action which is available, namely, action under the provisions of the Immigration and Nationality Act which authorizes admission on parole.

Persons admitted into the United States on parole have no permanent status in the United States, but the President will request the Congress in January for emergency legislation which will, through the use of unused numbers under the Refugee Relief Act, or otherwise, permit qualified escapees who accept asylum in the United States to obtain permanent residence.

The President also stated that it was his intention to request the Congress to include in such legislation provisions which would allow at least some of the escapees who have proceeded to other countries for asylum to have the opportunity to apply for permanent resettlement in the United States, having in mind particularly the fact that many of those refugees undoubtedly have relatives here.

The President pointed out that other nations have already made increasingly generous offers of asylum and have waived the ordinary restrictions imposed upon immigration.

The President said that he had directed the Secretary of Defense to work out arrangements for the transportation of these refugees to the United States in accordance with agreements to be made with the Austrian Government and the Intergovernmental Committee for European Migration.

In making his announcement, the President said that providing asylum to these Hungarian refugees would give practical effect to the American people's intense desire to help the victims of Soviet oppression. It will also materially assist the Government of Austria, which has responded so generously to the refugees' needs, to carry out its policy of political asylum.

NOTE: This statement was released at Augusta, Ga.

On December 6, 1956, the White House announced that transportation arrangements had been com-

pleted for bringing 21,500 Hungarian refugees to the United States with the utmost possible speed by air-lift and sea-lift.

307 ¶ Memorandum Authorizing Expenditures To Carry Out the Hungarian Refugee Program. *December 8, 1956*

[Released December 8, 1956. Dated December 6, 1956]

Memorandum to the Heads of Executive Departments and Establishments:

Subject: Hungarian Refugees

Pursuant to the authority vested in me by Section 401 of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended, it is hereby determined that the use of funds, available under said Act, for the purpose of carrying out the program of asylum for refugees from Hungary which was announced by my statement of December 1, 1956, is important to the security of the United States and that assistance to such refugees will contribute to the security of the United States.

The Department of State, the Department of Defense, the International Cooperation Administration, and any other Executive Agencies which may participate in this program are authorized and directed to take such action and make such

expenditures as may be necessary to perform such services and carry out such activities as are requested by my Representative for Hungarian Refugee Relief, and to be reimbursed from funds available under said Section for additional costs incurred and not otherwise provided for, to the extent agreed upon between such Agencies and ICA and approved by the Director of the Bureau of the Budget. It is my desire that the program be carried out forthwith and without awaiting completion of arrangements for reimbursements.

The Director of the International Cooperation Administration is requested on my behalf to give appropriate notices, pursuant to Section 513 of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended, to the Chairman of the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations, the Chairman of the House Committee on Foreign Affairs, and the respective Chairmen of the Senate and House Committees on Armed Services.

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

NOTE: This memorandum was released at Augusta, Ga.

308 ¶ Statement by the President: Human Rights Day in the Light of Recent Events in Hungary. *December 10, 1956*

TODAY, DECEMBER 10th, the United States together with many other nations will observe Human Rights Day. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights overwhelmingly approved by the General Assembly of the United Nations eight years ago has rightly been hailed as an important milestone along the road that leads to worldwide recognition of the inherent dignity of man.

This year the free world has the most compelling reasons for observing Human Rights Day with renewed awareness and resolution, but it has little cause to "celebrate" that day.

The recent outbreak of brutality in Hungary has moved free peoples everywhere to reactions of horror and revulsion. Our hearts are filled with sorrow. Our deepest sympathy goes out to the courageous, liberty-loving people of Hungary.

The terror imposed upon Hungary repudiates and negates almost every article in the Declaration of Human Rights.

It denies that men are born free and equal in dignity and rights, and that all should act in the spirit of brotherhood.

It denies the right to life, liberty, and security of person.

It denies the principle that no one shall be subjected to cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment.

It denies that no person shall be arbitrarily arrested, detained, or exiled.

It denies that all are equal before the law and entitled to its equal protection.

It denies the right to fair and public hearings by an independent and impartial tribunal.

It denies the right to freedom of thought, conscience, and religion.

It denies the right to freedom of opinion and expression.

It denies the right to freedom of peaceful assembly.

It denies that the individual may not be held in slavery or servitude.

It denies that the will of the people shall be the basis of the authority of government.

That these human rights have been so flagrantly repudiated is cause for worldwide mourning.

But the human spirit knows, as Thomas Jefferson said, that the God Who gave us life, gave us liberty at the same time. The courage and sacrifices of the brave Hungarian people have consecrated that spirit anew.

Not only government but the people of many nations have reacted in spontaneous sympathy. I am proud of the generous response of our voluntary agencies, humanitarian organizations, and of State and local governments—but I am especially proud

of what so many of our people have done, and are doing, as individuals.

We shall continue to offer shelter to the homeless, as we shall go on feeding the hungry and providing medicine and care for the sick.

On this Human Rights Day, it is for each of us to recognize anew that we are brothers in our Father's house, and each is truly his brother's keeper. We cannot shed that responsibility, nor do we want to do so. Let us resolve on this day that the world shall never forget what tyranny has done to our fellow man in Hungary.

Each in his own way, let us do all that we can to reaffirm, in word and in deed, our faith in the cause of freedom everywhere in the world.

So doing, these honored dead "shall not have died in vain."

NOTE: This statement was released at Augusta, Ga.

309 ¶ Letter to General Bragdon, Special
Assistant to the President for Coordination of
Public Works Planning. *December 10, 1956*

[Released December 10, 1956. Dated November 17, 1956]

Dear General Bragdon:

There has now been opportunity for me to review the report of your activities with respect to the coordination of public works planning and matters relative thereto transmitted in your memorandum of November 13, 1956. I am gratified with the progress that has been made in this area. Your plans and proposals represent a constructive forward step toward the achievement of our objective of strengthening and improving the coordination of long-range planning of public works at all levels of government.

In our country where the Constitution recognizes the proper

sphere of State government and where the independent functioning of our local governments, is retained and fostered, it is especially necessary that truly comprehensive planning be accomplished at and by all levels and that it be oriented with reference to intergovernmental relationships in order to secure sound, integrated development. This will be helpful in assuring and preserving the proper division of responsibilities among levels of government.

It is clear that the Federal Government should take the lead in developing effective coordination of public works planning.

Your plan to give greater emphasis at this time to the coordination of public works planning by the Federal agencies seems to me correct. I also concur with your findings as to the desirability and necessity of having the Executive departments and agencies intensify their planning efforts and that the stimulation of State and local public works planning be increased.

In accordance with the above, I wish you would develop procedures for early recognition and identification and problems and policy issues that may arise in this field, and continue the formulation of lines of action for their resolution. You have my continued interest and support in the efforts to move forward more rapidly toward the attainment of the objective of strengthening the nationwide public works planning.

Sincerely,

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

NOTE: This letter was released at Augusta, Ga., as part of a White House announcement regarding the progress in public works planning made by Maj. Gen. J. S. Bragdon, since his appointment on August 12, 1955.

The announcement reports that Gen. Bragdon proposed a new approach to comprehensive and coordinated planning. An advisory com-

mittee for Federal public works had already been formed, and regular meetings were being held. Under the plan States would be urged to establish advisory groups which would keep governors and State legislatures informed of how proposed State public works programs would fit in with the Federal program. Cities likewise would be encouraged to create advisory groups which

would keep mayors and city councils informed as to how their construction programs would meet the requirements of the cities' expansion over the next 15 or 20 years.

310 ¶ Letter to Thomas J. Watson, Jr.,
Chairman, United States Council of the
International Chamber of Commerce, on
Membership in the Organization for Trade
Cooperation. *December 11, 1956*

[Released December 11, 1956. Dated December 1, 1956]

Dear Tom:

I want to express my appreciation for your letter of November twentieth on behalf of the United States Council of the International Chamber of Commerce.

I am heartened to know that the Council continues its support of the Administration's program for United States membership in the Organization for Trade Cooperation. It is the intention of the Administration to renew its request to the incoming Congress for such membership and to seek earnestly for affirmative action.

I am especially interested in the last sentence of your letter which gives assurance that the United States Council will continue its efforts to explain to the public the compelling reasons for our membership in the organization. I encourage you most heartily in your efforts to spread knowledge about this important project throughout the business community and throughout the country generally.

With warm regard,

Sincerely,

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

NOTE: The text of Mr. Watson's letter and the President's reply were released at Augusta, Ga.

311 ¶ Telegram to the President of Finland on the Death of Former President Paasikivi.

December 15, 1956

His Excellency

Urho K. Kekkonen

President of Finland

I have learned with regret of the passing of Finland's illustrious former President [Juho Kusti] Paasikivi. On behalf of the American people and myself I send sincere condolences to both you and the people of Finland in the loss of President Paasikivi who served his people so well through a difficult period in the history of Finland.

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

312 ¶ Remarks of Welcome to Prime Minister Nehru of India. *December 16, 1956*

MR. PRIME MINISTER, this is an event to which I have long looked forward. It is a privilege and an honor to welcome you to this land—to this house.

I speak for the American people and the government when I say that we hope you will find your trip here most enjoyable—that you and your daughter will have a visit that is full of interest.

We thank you for coming.

NOTE: Prime Minister Nehru's reply follows:

"Mr. President, I am deeply grateful to you for the gracious invitation which has brought me here, and for your kind words. I have been looking forward to this visit for a long time, and now that I am here I feel

happy to be not only your guest, Mr. President, but among the American people who are so very friendly and hospitable.

"I look forward to these few days here. I am only sorry that my visit is a short one.

"Thank you, sir."

The President greeted Prime Minister Nehru upon his arrival at the White House. Earlier the Vice President had welcomed him on his arrival at the National Airport, at 12:30 p. m.

313 ¶ Message to Prime Minister Ichiro Hatoyama on the Occasion of Japan's Entry Into the United Nations. *December 18, 1956*

Dear Mr. Prime Minister:

Please accept my heartfelt congratulations to the Japanese Government and people upon Japan's achieving long-deserved membership in the United Nations. All free nations repose in this organization their confidence for the peaceful future of mankind. The membership of Japan makes this concept more meaningful than ever before. The American people rejoice in the action of the General Assembly today and welcome Japan as a new and worthy associate in the world's struggle for peace.

Sincerely,

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

314 ¶ Joint Statement Following Discussions With Prime Minister Nehru of India.
December 20, 1956

PRIME MINISTER NEHRU and President Eisenhower had long anticipated a personal meeting to discuss current world problems. In three days in Washington and a day at the President's farm at Gettysburg, they were afforded in a completely informal atmosphere the opportunity for full and frank talks on a wide range of problems of interest and concern to both countries.

The talks confirmed the broad area of agreement between India and the United States, which are bound together in strong ties of friendship deriving from their common objectives and their adherence to the highest principles of free democracy. The principles and policies of the Governments of India and the United States have evolved on the basis of respect for the dignity of man and of the need to improve the welfare of the individual.

The Prime Minister and the President are convinced that the greater understanding of their respective policies reached at these talks will facilitate the constant efforts of India and the United States towards the achievement of peaceful and friendly intercourse among nations in accordance with the principles of the United Nations.

315 ¶ Remarks at the Pageant of Peace Ceremonies. *December 20, 1956*

[Delivered over radio and television at 5:15 p. m.]

Mr. Chairman, Secretary Seaton, and My Friends:

In this Nation's capital city we are joined tonight with millions in all our forty-eight States, and, indeed, throughout the world, in the happiness and in the hope that Christmas brings.

Not that everyone is filled with happiness and hope in this season of rejoicing. Far from it. There is weariness—there is suffering for multitudes. There is hunger as well as happiness, slavery as well as freedom in the world tonight. But in the myriads of Christmas candles we see the vision of a better world for all people.

In the light of Christmas, the dark curtains of the world are drawn aside for the moment. We see more clearly our neighbors next door; and our neighbors in other nations. We see ourselves and the responsibilities that belong to us. Inspired by the story of Christmas we seek to give of our happiness and abundance to

others less fortunate. Even now the American people, on the farm and in the city, rallying through the Red Cross and other voluntary agencies to meet the needs of our neighbors in Hungary, are true to the spirit of Christmas.

Even more important, there are particularly manifested during this season those spiritual qualities of freedom and honor and neighborliness and good will—great virtues that make all peoples one. Through them, and faith in them, we see how men can live together in peace; for one glorious moment we sense progress toward that aspiration of every religious faith—“Peace on earth, good will to men.”

These are hallowed words; through ages they have heartened and moved mankind, even though their message of peace is far too often drowned by the strident voices of the fearful or the arrogant, who fill our minds with doubt and pessimism. They blur our vision with clouds of hate.

But the spirit of Christmas returns, yet again, to enable us to gain understanding of each other; to help each other; to obey the elemental precepts of justice; to practice good will toward all men of every tongue and color and creed; to remember that we are all identical in our aspirations for a peaceful, a decent, a rewarding life.

In the warm glow of the Christmas tree, it is easy to say these things, but when the trees come down and the lights are put away—as they always are—then we have a true testing of the spirit. That testing will be answered, throughout the year ahead, by the success each of us experiences in keeping alive the inspiration and exaltation of this moment.

We must proceed by faith, knowing the light of Christmas is eternal, though we cannot always see it.

We must believe that the truth of Christmas is constant; that men can live together in peace as Lincoln said, “with charity for all, with firmness in the right.”

In this spirit, I now turn on the lights of the National Christmas Tree. [*The lights are turned on*]

By the light of Christmas charity and Christmas truth, we enter the New Year with gratitude and strength. In this spirit, let us make sure that 1957 will add a memorable chapter to the story of mankind.

Now, on behalf of Mrs. Eisenhower and myself, may I wish for all of you in this audience—throughout our nation—throughout the world—a truly Merry Christmas. And may the Father of us all bless all who dwell upon the earth.

Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke just before lighting the National Community Christmas Tree at the Pageant of Peace Ceremonies on the Ellipse.

His opening words "Mr. Chairman" referred to Edward R. Carr, President and General Chairman of the Pageant of Peace.

316 ¶ Statement by the President on Highway Safety During the Holidays. *December 28, 1956*

FOR HUNDREDS of American families the Christmas week end this year was a time of sorrow that cannot be measured in statistics or casualty lists. The families broken up, the homes darkened, the anguish and the heartbreak of children and the aged—these terrible penalties of speeding or careless and reckless driving cast a tragic shadow on this Christmastide.

The New Year's week end, too, will inflict on hundreds more an equally tragic toll, unless all of us as we drive about the country observe the rules of the road, a decent regard for the safety of ourselves and others, and a courtesy that reflects our respect for the life and welfare of our neighbors. We can make this the safest New Year's week end on record, if we want to.

And certainly after listening to and reading, through the Christmas days, the reports of mounting death and injury on our highways, all of us should be determined to save lives this week end.

317 ¶ Citation Accompanying the Distinguished Service Medal Presented to General Gruenther.

December 28, 1956

[Text read by Maj. Gen. Herbert M. Jones, Acting The Adjutant General]

THE PRESIDENT of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress July 9, 1918, has awarded the Distinguished Service Medal (Second Oak Leaf Cluster) to

GENERAL ALFRED M. GRUENTHER,

UNITED STATES ARMY

for exceptionally meritorious service in a duty of great responsibility:

General Gruenther performed exceptionally meritorious and distinguished service to the Government of the United States while serving in positions of great responsibility during the period 10 December 1950 to 31 December 1956. As Chief of Staff of the SHAPE Advance Planning Group from 10 December 1950 to 1 April 1951, he displayed a superb grasp of the many complicated problems inherent in the unprecedented establishment of an international military headquarters. His foresight and brilliant planning contributed in a large measure to the effective and orderly activation of Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe. As Chief of Staff of SHAPE from 2 April 1951 to 10 July 1953, his handling of the complicated matters involved in developing an integrated staff, coupled with his manner of leadership and consequent ability to gain the confidence of all nationalities and services, resulted in the creation of a cohesive and enthusiastic staff. His executive skill and his profound understanding of multi-service problems did much to make possible the development of sound plans and objectives for the most effective utilization of Allied Forces in the common defense of the free world. As Supreme Allied Commander Europe, and Com-

mander in Chief, United States European Command, from 11 July 1953 to 20 November 1956, his inspiring leadership, his keen appreciation of the individual difficulties confronting each of the member nations, his administrative soundness, and his personal capacity for presenting solutions to existing problems to the various national authorities were major contributing factors in increasing the strength of the alliance. His candor, integrity, brilliance, and unswerving belief in the principles of collective security have won him the respect and confidence of leaders at the highest level in all NATO nations. In so doing, General Gruenther has made an exceptional contribution to the defense of the free world and has carried on the highest traditions of the military service and reflected great credit on himself and the United States.

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

NOTE: The President made the presentation in the Cabinet Room at the White House at 11:01 a. m.

318 ¶ White House Statement Following Meeting With Republican Leaders of the Senate and the House of Representatives.

December 31, 1956

THE PRESIDENT met today in the Cabinet Room with the Republican leaders of the Senate and the House of Representatives. They had a general discussion of many of the domestic programs which will be submitted by the Administration to the Congress in the State of the Union and other messages at the 1957 session of the Congress.

A general discussion of foreign policy, mutual security and national defense programs will be held tomorrow afternoon when the President holds a bi-partisan meeting with the Legislative leaders of both parties.

This morning the main subjects under discussion were the Budget, the further development of the domestic atomic energy program, school construction needs, civil rights and proposed amendments to the Immigration and Naturalization Law.

The Secretary of the Treasury and the Director of the Bureau of the Budget outlined the fiscal details of the domestic side of the 1958 Budget as well as projected receipts and expenditures for the 1957 Budget. Both the Secretary and the Director expressed the belief that continuing economies in the operation of the government, coupled with no loss in existing revenues, would result in a continuation of a balanced budget.

The Chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission next reviewed the status of the present development of atomic energy for domestic use and discussed proposed additional legislation necessary to expand such development, particularly government indemnity for third-party liability in connection with the atom power program.

The Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare stressed the need for passage by the 1957 Session of the Congress of legislation designed to speed a four-year plan of construction of needed schoolrooms to meet a nationwide shortage. He likewise discussed other proposals concerning his Department.

The Attorney General urged passage of the Civil Rights Program advanced last year by the President and the Department of Justice. He also recommended that Administration amendments to the Immigration and Naturalization Act recommended last year be again advanced and pressed for passage at the 1957 Session.

The Hungarian refugee relief program was not discussed today. The Vice President and the Attorney General will make a report on this program, together with recommendations, at tomorrow's bi-partisan meeting.

The meeting will reconvene this afternoon at two o'clock. Among the subjects on the agenda are: farm legislation; small

business aid proposals; labor legislation; postal rates; Interior Department programs, including water resources, conservation and Federal-State partnership projects; veteran housing; Civil Service legislation; lowering of the voting age; home rule and national suffrage for the District of Columbia; and housing and area redevelopment programs.

NOTE: No further statement was released regarding the afternoon meeting.

Appendix A—White House Press Releases, 1956

NOTE: Includes releases covering matters with which the President was closely concerned, except announcements of Presidential personnel appointments and approvals of legislation with which there was no accompanying statement.

Releases relating to Proclamations and Executive Orders have not been included. These documents are separately listed in Appendix B.

For list of Press and Radio Conferences, see subject index under "News Conferences."

<i>January</i>	<i>Subject</i>
3	Telegram to the President, National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis
5	Annual message to the Congress on the State of the Union
5	Remarks on the State of the Union Message
6	Letter to George A. Garrett concerning the redevelopment of Southwest Washington
8	Letter to Samuel Spencer, President, D. C. Board of Commissioners, on his decision to return to private life
9	Special message to the Congress on agriculture
10	Letter accepting resignation of H. Chapman Rose, Under Secretary of the Treasury
11	White House statement announcing appointment of Edward A. McCabe as Associate Special Counsel to the President
11	White House statement following the President's physical examination
11	Letter to President of the Senate and to Speaker of the House transmitting Great Plains region agricultural program
11	White House statement following statement by Governor of Illinois

<i>January</i>	<i>Subject</i>
12	Special message to the Congress on education
12	Message to the Congress transmitting annual report of St. Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation
12	Message to the Congress transmitting Third Semiannual Report under Public Law 480, 83d Congress
12	Special message to the Senate transmitting protocol of amendments to Convention on International Civil Aviation
12	Special message to the Senate transmitting conventions relating to customs
12	Special message to the Senate transmitting Convention for the Promotion of Inter-American Cultural Relations
12	Special message to the Senate transmitting International Plant Protection Convention
12	Special message to the Senate transmitting treaty with Iran
12	Special message to the Congress transmitting report of Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare under Public Law 744, 83d Congress
13	Letter to Director of Central Intelligence regarding Board of Consultants on Foreign Intelligence Activities

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<i>January</i>	<i>Subject</i>	<i>January</i>	<i>Subject</i>
13	Letter to Dr. James R. Killian, Jr., appointing him Chairman, Board of Consultants on Foreign Intelligence Activities	28	White House statement announcing appointment of William H. Jackson as Special Assistant to the President
13	Memorandum on the Red Cross campaign	28	Letter to Nikolai Bulganin, Chairman, Council of Ministers, U. S. S. R., regarding proposed treaty of friendship and cooperation
16	Annual Budget Message to the Congress	31	Statement by the President upon signing bill for the relief of Mr. and Mrs. Derfery William Wright
17	White House statement on report of the President's Advisory Committee on Water Resources Policy		
17	Letter to President of the Senate and to Speaker of the House transmitting report of the President's Advisory Committee on Water Resources Policy	<i>February</i>	
18	Letter to Chairman, Civil Aeronautics Board, on the Great Circle route to the Orient	1	Statement by the President on the death of Governor Paul Patterson of Oregon
19	Telegram to Deputy Secretary of State of New Hampshire concerning appearance on the primary ballot	1	Letter to President of the Senate and to Speaker of the House transmitting report of Postmaster General
20	Letter accepting resignation of Rowland R. Hughes, Director, Bureau of the Budget	1	Joint statement following discussions with Prime Minister Eden
20	Address at "Salute to Eisenhower" dinner	1	The Declaration of Washington: Joint declaration by the President and the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom
24	Annual message transmitting the Economic Report	2	Remarks at annual breakfast of the International Council of Christian Leadership
25	White House statement concerning U. S. delegation to the inauguration of the President-elect of Brazil	2	Letter to President of the Senate and to Speaker of the House on National Park System plan "Mission 66"
26	Special message to the Congress on the Nation's health program	3	Letter to Chairman, Joint Committee on Atomic Energy, concerning report of Panel on Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy
26	Letter to Philip Young in response to report on Hoover Commission recommendations on Personnel and Civil Service	6	Letter to Chairman, the Governors' Conference, transmitting report of Interdepartmental Committee on Narcotics
28	Letter to Senator Kennedy concerning President Hoover's proposal for an Administrative Vice President, from The Assistant to the President	6	Letter accepting resignation of Edmund F. Mansure, Administrator of General Services

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<i>February</i>	<i>Subject</i>	<i>February</i>	<i>Subject</i>
8	Special message to the Congress on immigration matters	19	Statement by the President expressing concern over the distress caused by the winter in Europe
8	Joint statement following visit of Rene Mayer, President of the High Authority, European Community for Coal and Steel	22	Statement by the President announcing determination to make uranium available for peaceful uses
8	White House statement announcing visit of the Prime Minister of Ireland	25	Statement by the President upon signing bill authorizing Washita River Basin Reclamation Project, Okla.
8	Letter to Senator Aiken regarding the soil bank proposals	28	Joint statement following meeting with the President of Italy
9	Letter to Chairman, the President's Committee for Traffic Safety	28	Remarks on receiving statue presented by the President of Italy
9	Letter to the Governors of the States on traffic safety	29	Radio and television address to the American people following decision on a second term
9	Letter accepting resignation of Trevor Gardner, Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Research and Development		
11	Letter to Edward P. Curtis on his appointment as Special Assistant to the President for Aviation Facilities Planning	<i>March</i>	
11	Telegram to the President of Italy expressing sympathy for the people in snow-stricken areas	1	Joint statement following second meeting with the President of Italy
14	Letter to Chairmen, Senate Finance and House Ways and Means Committees, on tariff on ferrocerium and other cerium alloys	6	Remarks at Fourth Annual Republican Women's National Conference
14	Report on the President's cardiovascular examination at Walter Reed Army Medical Center	6	Letter to Harry H. Semmes, Co-Chairman, National Security Committee, concerning Military Reserve Week
15	Citation accompanying Medal of Freedom presented to Dr. John von Neumann	6	Letter to Nikolai Bulganin, Chairman, Council of Ministers, U. S. S. R., on Geneva disarmament proposal
16	Letter accepting resignation of Thurston B. Morton, Assistant Secretary of State	9	Letter to Claude L. Draper, Member, Federal Power Commission, following his decision to retire
17	Veto of bill to amend the Natural Gas Act	9	Letter to Douglas McKay, Secretary of the Interior, following his decision to campaign for election to the Senate
		13	Statement by the President: Job Safety Week
		15	Remarks to National Council of the United Service Organizations

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<i>March</i>	<i>Subject</i>	<i>March</i>	<i>Subject</i>
19	Special message to the Congress on the Mutual Security Program	29	Letter accepting resignation of Douglas McKay, Secretary of the Interior
19	Statement by the President upon signing bill for the relief of Irfan Kavar	29	Letter to J. Earl Major regarding retirement from active service as a United States Circuit Judge
19	Letter to Prime Minister U Nu on receiving gift of Burmese teak	29	White House statement concerning tariff on imports of hatters' fur
20	White House statement announcing visit of the Prime Minister of India	29	Special message to the Congress transmitting report on the feasibility of maintaining a domestic tin-smelting industry
20	Cablegram to the President of Lebanon expressing sympathy following an earthquake disaster	29	Letter to the Chairman, Three Hours Observance of Good Friday
20	Letter accepting resignation of Angus Ward, Ambassador to Afghanistan	31	Letter to the Governor of Florida in response to a proposal for a conference of Southern Governors
20	White House statement on report of Board of Visitors to the U. S. Naval Academy		
20	Letter to Chairmen, Senate Finance and House Ways and Means Committees, on tariff on acid grade fluor-spar	<i>April</i>	
21	Letter accepting resignation of Christian A. Herter, Jr., General Counsel of the International Cooperation Administration	2	Exchange of messages between the President and the President of Mexico following meeting at White Sulphur Springs, W. Va.
21	White House statement concerning import quota on cheese	2	Exchange of messages between the President and the Prime Minister of Canada following meeting at White Sulphur Springs, W. Va.
21	Letter to Senator H. Alexander Smith concerning the problems of older persons	2	Statement by the President upon signing bills concerning the School Milk Program, the eradication of brucellosis, and the tax on gasoline used on farms
22	Letter to the Secretary of Defense on the Hoover Commission recommendations	2	Memorandum of Disapproval of bill for the relief of Ashot and Ophelia Mnatzakanian
22	Letter to the President of Pakistan on the occasion of the celebration of Republic Day	3	Memorandum concerning establishment and functions of the Federal Council on Aging
27	Letter to the President, Crusade for Freedom	3	Remarks at Twelfth Annual Washington Conference for the Advertising Council
28	White House statement concerning the President's Committee on Education Beyond the High School		

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<i>Subject</i>	<i>Subject</i>
<i>April</i>	<i>April</i>
3 Statement by the President on establishing the National Committee for the Development of Scientists and Engineers	17 Address at meeting sponsored by the Republican National Committee
3 Letter to Dr. Howard L. Bevis appointing him Chairman, National Committee for the Development of Scientists and Engineers	19 Letter appointing members of the President's Committee on Education Beyond the High School
4 Letter from The Assistant to the President to the President, National Academy of Sciences, in response to Report of Committee on Loyalty in Relation to Government Support of Unclassified Research	19 Letter commemorating the 75th anniversary of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America
9 White House statement concerning the request for supplemental appropriations for defense	21 Address at annual dinner of the American Society of Newspaper Editors
9 Veto of bill for the relief of Roy Cowan and others	23 White House statement on report of Board of Visitors to the U. S. Military Academy
9 Exchange of messages between the President and the President of the Philippine Republic, on Bataan Day	29 Letter to Director, Bureau of the Budget, on the Hoover Commission report on budget and accounting
9 White House statement following discussion of the Middle East situation by the President and Secretary Dulles	30 White House statement concerning the visit of the President of Indonesia
10 Letter to President of the Senate and to Speaker of the House on improving military career incentives	30 Special message to the Congress transmitting report on rubber requirements and resources
10 White House statement concerning statue of Commodore Barry to be presented to the people of Ireland	30 Statement by the President upon signing bill providing improved career incentives for medical and dental officers
11 Letters accepting resignations of R. Douglas Stuart, Ambassador to Canada, and Livingston T. Merchant, Assistant Secretary of State	30 Statement by the President on the death of Alben W. Barkley
13 White House statement announcing the retirement of General Gruenther	
16 Veto of the farm bill	<i>May</i>
16 Radio and television address to the American people on the farm bill veto	1 Statement by the President: Armed Forces Day
	1 White House statement concerning discussion of NATO matters with the Secretary of State
	4 Statement to the President by advisers to U. S. delegation negotiating tariff agreements in Geneva
	4 Memorandum on the Atomic Energy Labor-Management Relations Panel

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<i>May</i>	<i>Subject</i>	<i>May</i>	<i>Subject</i>
7	White House statement concerning report of Interdepartmental Committee for the Study of Jurisdiction over Federal Areas within the States	14	White House statement concerning Senator George's appointment as the President's Personal Representative for the North Atlantic Community
7	Letter accepting resignation of Ancher Nelsen, Administrator of Rural Electrification	16	Special message to the Congress transmitting Reorganization Plan 1 of 1956
8	Letter accepting resignation of F. Moran McConihe, Special Consultant to the President	16	Toasts of the President and the President of Indonesia
9	Letter to Senator George asking him to serve as the President's Personal Representative for the North Atlantic Community	16	Remarks at dedication of General Motors Research Center in Detroit
9	Remarks to members of the Military Chaplains National Association	17	Letter accepting resignation of James C. Dunn, Ambassador to Brazil
9	Statement by the President upon signing Bank Holding Company Act of 1956	17	Special message to the Congress transmitting Reorganization Plan 2 of 1956
10	Special message to the Congress on the Hoover Commission report on budget and accounting	18	Letter to Edward M. Webster, Member, Federal Communications Commission, following his decision to retire
10	Letter accepting resignation of Louis B. Toomer, Register of the Treasury	19	Statement by the President upon signing Second Supplemental Appropriation Act, 1956
11	Telegram to the President of Panama accepting invitation to attend the meeting of Presidents	21	Letter to Director, Bureau of the Budget, on the Hoover Commission recommendation on Government reporting requirements
12	Letter to Major General William J. Donovan concerning the dedication of World War II cemeteries and memorials	21	Memorandum stating policies governing the leasing of farm lands by the Federal Government
12	Report on the President's physical examination at Walter Reed Hospital	22	Veto of bill for the relief of the Board of Commissioners of Sedgwick County, Kans.
14	Letter in response to report of Committee for the White House Conference on Education	23	Letter to J. M. Johnson, Member, Interstate Commerce Commission, following his decision to retire
14	Remarks at the opening of the Conference on Occupational Safety	24	White House statement concerning Soviet efforts to induce refugees to return
14	White House statement concerning contract for a study of air facilities needs	25	Address and remarks at the Baylor University Commencement

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<i>May</i>	<i>Subject</i>	<i>June</i>	<i>Subject</i>
28	Letter accepting resignation of James H. Smith, Jr., Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Air	12	Letter to the Federal Civil Defense Administrator authorizing flood disaster assistance in Colorado
28	Statement by the President upon signing Agricultural Act of 1956	13	Special message to the Senate transmitting International Wheat Agreement
29	Statement by the President upon signing bill extending the Sugar Act of 1948	14	Remarks of Chancellor Adenauer and Secretary Dulles following a visit with the President at the hospital
31	White House statement concerning meeting on people-to-people contacts	15	Letter accepting resignation of Samuel M. Brownell, Commissioner of Education
31	Remarks at the National Citizens for Eisenhower Executive Campaign Conference	17	Message to the President of Germany on the anniversary of the demonstrations for freedom in the Soviet Zone
<i>June</i>		17	List of personnel in attendance or associated with the President's case at the Walter Reed Hospital
1	Letter to Arthur F. Burns appointing him Chairman, Cabinet Committee on Small Business	18	Veto of bill for the relief of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas V. Compton
1	Letter accepting resignation of Ford Q. Elvidge, Governor of Guam	19	Statement by the President upon signing Library Services Bill
4	Remarks at dedication of AFL-CIO Building	19	Message to the President's Conference on the Fitness of American Youth
4	White House statement concerning actions to benefit the fishing industry	20	Remarks of the Foreign Minister of France following his visit with the President
5	Exchange of messages between the President and the President of Indonesia	22	Exchange of messages between the President and the Chancellor of Germany
6	Remarks to a group of young Republican leaders	22	Letter accepting resignation of Joseph M. Dodge, Special Assistant for Foreign Economic Policy
7	Special message to the Congress concerning trade agreement actions	25	Exchange of messages between the President and the Prime Minister of India concerning the postponement of his visit
8	Veto of bill making payment to Crow Indian Tribe	27	Message from the Prime Minister of India
8	Letter from Nikolai Bulganin, Chairman, Council of Ministers, U. S. S. R., on disarmament		
8	White House statement concerning the President's stomach upset		
8	White House statement on the President's ileitis attack		

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<i>June</i>	<i>Subject</i>	<i>July</i>	<i>Subject</i>
27	Letter to President of the Senate and to Speaker of the House proposing Advisory Commission on Presidential Office Space	9	Letter appointing Dr. Harvey Stone a member of the National Advisory Committee on the Selection of Physicians, Dentists and Allied Specialists
27	Statement by the President approving new program for fund-raising within the Federal establishment	10	Letter to Clarence B. Randall on his appointment as Special Assistant to the President for Foreign Economic Policy
27	White House statement concerning the Vice President's forthcoming visit to Viet-Nam	11	Message to the Congress transmitting Fourth Semiannual Report under Public Law 480, 83d Congress
29	Letter to Dan Thornton on his appointment as head of Agricultural Division of Republican National Committee	11	Message to the King of Greece conveying sympathy following an earthquake disaster
29	Letter accepting resignation of Dr. Leonard A. Scheele, Surgeon General, U. S. Public Health Service	16	Veto of bill authorizing certain construction at military installations
29	White House statement concerning exchanges between the United States and the countries of Eastern Europe	17	White House statement concerning statue of Commodore Barry to be presented to the people of Ireland
<i>July</i>		17	Letter to the Administrator of Civil Defense on the occasion of Operation Alert 1956
2.	Veto of bill for the relief of the estate of Susie Lee Spencer	17	White House statement following appointment of John A. Howard as Executive Vice Chairman, the President's Committee on Government Contracts
2	Veto of bill concerning claim of William E. Stone	18	Special message to the Congress transmitting Report on Lend-Lease Operations
2	Statement by the President upon signing bill making appropriations for certain Federal agencies, including the civil functions of the Corps of Engineers	19	Message to the Congress transmitting Tenth Annual Report on United States Participation in the United Nations
3	Commutation of death sentence of Private Richard A. Hagelberger, USA	19	Cablegram to the Supreme Chief of State of Honduras on the death of Ambassador Izaguirre
9	Statement by the President upon signing Water Pollution Act Amendments of 1956	20	White House statement concerning requests for supplemental appropriations
9	Memorandum on the United Givers Fund Campaign in the National Capital Area	21	Remarks upon arrival in Panama City for the meeting of the Presidents of the Americas

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<i>July</i>	<i>Subject</i>	<i>August</i>	<i>Subject</i>
22	Address at the signing of the Declaration of Principles at the meeting of the Presidents in Panama City	1	Statement by the President upon signing bill to improve budgeting and accounting methods and procedures
23	White House statement concerning Mr. Stassen's statement on the Vice President	1	Statement by the President upon signing bill establishing a new survivor benefit program for the uniformed services
25	Letter accepting resignation of Harry P. Cain, member of the Subversive Activities Control Board	1	Statement by the President upon signing the Social Security Amendments of 1956
25	White House statement announcing appointment of Forest D. Siefkin as consultant to the Special Assistant for Foreign Economic Policy	1	Statement by the President upon signing bill to incorporate the National Music Council
26	Statement by the President upon signing Farm Credit Act of 1956	1	Memorandum of Disapproval of bill for the relief of Jean Pfeifer
26	Statement by the President upon signing bill creating the Muscatine Bridge Commission	2	Statement by the President upon signing Health Amendments Act of 1956
27	Statement by the President following the collision between the Andrea Doria and the Stockholm	2	Statement by the President upon signing Customs Simplification Act of 1956
27	Statement by the President concerning the settlement of the steel strike	3	Memorandum of Disapproval of bill for the relief of the city of Elkins, W. Va.
30	Statement by the President upon signing Health Research Facilities Act of 1956	3	White House statement announcing appointment of Dr. Leroy E. Burney as Surgeon General, U. S. Public Health Service
30	White House statement on Mr. Stassen's request for leave of absence	3	Remarks of the President during the broadcast on the Suez Canal situation by Secretary Dulles
31	Statement by the President upon signing Mutual Security Appropriation Act, 1957	6	Statement by the President upon signing the Small Reclamation Projects Act of 1956
31	Memorandum of Disapproval of bill pertaining to improvements of two business properties in the District of Columbia	7	Letter to Nikolai Bulganin, Chairman, Council of Ministers, U. S. S. R.
31	Memorandum of Disapproval of bill reconveying mineral interests in certain lands acquired by the United States	7	Statement by the President upon signing Federal Flood Insurance Act of 1956
		7	Statement by the President upon signing bill to amend Railroad Retirement Act of 1937

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<i>August</i>	<i>Subject</i>	<i>August</i>	<i>Subject</i>
7	Statement by the President upon signing bill pertaining to Great Plains Conservation Program	10	Letters to Chairmen, Senate Finance and House Ways and Means Committees, concerning tariff on para-aminosalicylic acid
7	Statement by the President upon signing bill to amend Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act	12	White House statement concerning bipartisan meeting on the Suez Canal
8	Statement by the President upon signing the American Samoa Labor Standards Amendments of 1956	14	Memorandum on United Fund and Community Chest campaigns
8	Statement by the President upon signing Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956	14	Statement by the Secretary of State concerning talk with the President before leaving for London Conference on Suez Canal
8	Statement by the President upon signing bill relating to suits by automobile dealers against manufacturers	14	Letter from The Assistant to the President to the President, National Academy of Sciences, on loyalty in relation to Government support of research
8	Memorandum of Disapproval of resolution setting date of meeting of the 85th Congress	16	Statement by the President in response to progress report on highways by the Secretary of Commerce
9	Letter to Chairman, Council of Economic Advisers, concerning report of Cabinet Committee on Small Business	16	White House statement concerning team of scientists and engineers to study aviation facilities requirements
9	Memorandum of Disapproval of bill permitting increased water diversion from Lake Michigan	18	Letter accepting resignation of John Sherman Cooper, Ambassador to India and Nepal
9	Memorandum of Disapproval of bill relating to rates charged by the Southwestern Power Administration	20	Statement by the President following meeting with Commission on Increased Use of Agricultural Products
9	Memorandum of Disapproval of bill for the validation of certain mining claims in Wyoming	21	Remarks on arrival at San Francisco for the Republican National Convention
10	Memorandum of Disapproval of bill authorizing navigation, shore protection, and flood control projects	23	Address at the Cow Palace on accepting the nomination
10	Memorandum of Disapproval of bill extending credit for certain taxes imposed by the United Kingdom	25	Letter accepting resignation of Dillon Anderson, Special Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs
10	Memorandum of Disapproval of bills creating commissions for the construction of Ohio River bridges	26	Statement by the President concerning resumption of nuclear tests by the U. S. S. R.
10	Memorandum of Disapproval of bill providing a special method of taxation of real estate investment trusts		

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<i>Subject</i>	<i>Subject</i>
<i>August</i>	<i>September</i>
29 Statement by the President on receiving Secretary Dulles' report on the London Suez Conference	12 Remarks at the Republican Campaign Picnic at the President's Gettysburg farm
31 Letter accepting resignation of Henry F. Holland, Assistant Secretary of State for Inter-American Affairs	14 Letter from Nikolai Bulganin, Chairman, Council of Ministers, U. S. S. R.
<i>September</i>	14 Exchange of messages between the President and the Secretary General of the Christian Democratic Party of Italy
1 White House statement announcing program for the donation of surplus property to the States for civil defense purposes	16 Letter to the President of Ireland on the occasion of the dedication of the Commodore Barry statue
1 Remarks at ceremonies marking issuance of stamp honoring American Labor	17 Statement by Dr. Milton S. Eisenhower before meeting of the Inter-American Committee of Presidential Representatives
3 Statement by the President: Labor Day	17 Statement by the Secretary of State following talk with the President before leaving for second London meeting on Suez Canal
3 Statement by the President on making public a report by the Secretary of Labor	18 Remarks at Republican Send-off Breakfast at Washington National Airport
4 Telegram to Adlai E. Stevenson offering him access to special intelligence information	18 White House statement concerning report of Administrator of Small Business
5 Statement by the President on the death of Frank A. Nixon	19 Radio and television address opening the President's campaign for reelection
5 Statement by the President on the occasion of Rosh Hashana	20 White House statement on housing credit
7 White House statement concerning meeting to discuss people-to-people contacts	21 Remarks at the National Field Days and Plowing Matches, Colfax, Iowa
7 Telegram to Chairman, Foundation for Religious Action in the Social and Civil Order	21 Remarks to Republican leaders and workers and a group of newspaper editors, Des Moines, Iowa
7 Letter to Sherman Minton regarding his retirement as an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court	25 White House statement on report of Board of Visitors to the U. S. Air Force Academy
9 Statement by the President marking the opening of National Civil Defense Week	25 Letter to Representative Keating concerning the admission of European refugees and escapees
11 Remarks at the People-to-People Conference	

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<i>September</i>	<i>Subject</i>	<i>October</i>	<i>Subject</i>
25	Address at Bradley University, Peoria, Ill.	1	Address at a rally in the Public Square, Cleveland, Ohio
26	Letter accepting resignation of Herbert V. Prochnow, Deputy Under Secretary of State	1	Remarks upon arrival in Lexington, Ky.
26	Statement by the President on the Poznan trials	1	Address at the University of Kentucky Coliseum in Lexington
27	Letter accepting resignation of Bradshaw Mintener, Assistant Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare	2	Letter to Chairman, Tariff Commission, on imports of dried figs and fig paste
28	Statement by the President on receiving progress reports on Rural Development Program	2	Letter to Chairman, Tariff Commission, on imports of dates
28	Remarks at meeting of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund	3	Letter to Henry Cabot Lodge, Jr., concerning the Pulaski Day Parade in New York
29	Statement by the President on the death of President Somoza of Nicaragua	3	Remarks on the three missions of the members of the Armed Forces
29	Memorandum from the Secretary of State on Dr. Milton Eisenhower's activities in the field of inter-American affairs	4	Memorandum from Chairman, Atomic Energy Commission, following speech by Senator Kefauver
30	Statement by the President: National Newspaper Week	5	White House statement concerning tariff on watches
30	Statement by the President marking the opening of the United Community Campaigns	6	Statement by the President on the testing of nuclear weapons
30	Memorandum from the Chairman, Civil Service Commission, on the Administration and the career service	6	Message to the newspaperboys of America
		7	Statement by the President on the need for maintaining the draft
		8	Memorandum from the Attorney General concerning the Communist Party in the United States
		9	Remarks to two groups of Republican workers in Pittsburgh, Pa.
		9	Address at the Hunt Armory in Pittsburgh, Pa.
<i>October</i>		10	White House statement concerning steps to increase the availability of veterans home loans
1	Message to the National Education Association on the mission of education in America and the role of the Federal Government	11	Statement by the President on the drought and the Federal disaster relief programs
1	Remarks to the Sales Executives Club and Chamber of Commerce, Cleveland, Ohio		

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11 Statement by the President concerning railroad rate reductions by railroads in aid of drought disaster areas	17 Address at a rally in the Civic Auditorium, Seattle, Wash.
11 Remarks to the Civil Service Assembly of the United States and Canada	18 Letter to Housing and Home Finance Administrator authorizing mortgage purchases under special housing program for the elderly
12 Memorandum to Defense Mobilization Director concerning the distribution of petroleum supplies	18 Remarks at the College of Puget Sound, Tacoma, Wash.
12 Statement by the President on the death of J. Percy Priest	18 Remarks upon arrival in Portland, Oreg.
12 White House statement concerning tariff on dried figs	18 Remarks to a group of Republican workers at the Civic Auditorium, Portland, Oreg.
12 Television broadcast: "The People Ask the President"	18 Address at the Civic Auditorium in Portland, Oreg.
13 Remarks following television program on eve of the President's birthday	19 Remarks on the aviation industry at the airport, Burbank, Calif.
15 Statement by the President concerning the first nuclear-powered merchant ship	19 Address at the Hollywood Bowl, Beverly Hills, Calif.
15 Statement by the President concerning the medical care program for dependents of members of the uniformed services	20 Remarks upon arrival in Denver, Colo.
15 Remarks at ceremony marking beginning of the Upper Colorado River Project, Glen Canyon Dam, Ariz.	20 Statement by the President on the reports from Poland
15 Remarks inaugurating the "Your Government and You" five-minute broadcasts	21 Letter to President Hoover concerning progress in carrying out the Hoover Commission recommendations
16 Remarks upon arrival in Minneapolis, Minn.	21 Letter to Nikolai Bulganin, Chairman, Council of Ministers, U. S. S. R.
16 Letter to President of the Senate and to Speaker of the House regarding mutual security assistance to Yugoslavia	21 Memorandum from Chairman, Atomic Energy Commission, concerning statement by scientists on the development and testing of nuclear weapons
16 Remarks at Rice Park, St. Paul, Minn.	22 Telegram to Chairman, Small Businessmen for Ike
16 Remarks at Centennial Plaza, Minneapolis, Minn.	23 Message to President Gronchi concerning the Italian Government's demonstration of aerial photography
	23 Letter from Small Business Administrator concerning problems of small trucking firms in obtaining loans

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23	Address at the anniversary dinner of the Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners	29	White House statement concerning pledge to assist victims of aggression in the Middle East
24	Statement by the President reviewing policies and actions with respect to the development and testing of nuclear weapons	29	Address at the International Airport, Miami, Fla.
24	Letter to Associate Editor, National Tribune, on the Government's veterans program	29	Address at the Imeson Field Airport, Jacksonville, Fla.
24	Television broadcast: "The Women Ask the President"	29	Address at Byrd Field, Richmond, Va.
25	Statement by the President on the purchasing power of wages	30	Telegram to members of Republican organizations regretting need for canceling airport meetings at Dallas, Oklahoma City, and Memphis
25	Statement by the President on the developments in Hungary	30	White House statement concerning the Anglo-French ultimatum to Egypt and Israel
25	Letter to President Diem on the first anniversary of the Republic of Vietnam	31	Radio and television report to the American people on the developments in Eastern Europe and the Middle East
25	Address in Madison Square Garden, New York City		
26	Letter to President of Conference on the Statute of the International Atomic Energy Agency	<i>November</i>	
26	Statement by the President at Conference on the Statute of the International Atomic Energy Agency	1	White House statement on the nuclear weapons problem
26	Statement by the President concerning the entry into the United States of adopted foreign-born orphans	1	Address in Convention Hall, Philadelphia, Pa.
27	Memorandum from Director, Bureau of the Budget, on program of eliminating Federal commercial activities	2	Statement by the President authorizing food and other relief for the Hungarian people
28	Statement by the President on the Middle East including the Israeli mobilization	2	Letter to Horace M. Albright concerning the Administration's conservation programs
28	Report of the President's physical examination	2	Statement by members of conference to discuss United States participation in the International Atomic Energy Agency
29	Letter to a college student concerning the Administration's views on education	2	Letter from the Secretary of Labor on the cost of living
		2	Report from the Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare, in reply to certain statements by Mr. Stevenson

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3	White House statement concerning additional proposals with respect to the Middle East situation	8	Letter accepting resignation of Theodore C. Streibert, Director, U. S. Information Agency
3	White House statement in reply to Mr. Stevenson's statements concerning atomic fall-out	8	Statement by the President concerning the admission of refugees from Hungary
3	Letter from Chairman, American National Red Cross, concerning actions on behalf of Hungary	13	Letter accepting resignation of Arthur F. Burns, Chairman, Council of Economic Advisers
3	Memorandum from the Secretary of Labor on the Administration's labor record	13	White House statement concerning tariff on ferrocium and other cerium alloys
4	Statement by the President following Secretary Dulles' operation	17	White House statement concerning tariff on butter oil and butter substitutes
4	Statement by the President on the use of Soviet forces in Hungary	18	Statement by the President announcing additional steps to accelerate the development of nuclear power abroad
4	Letter to Reuben Cummings of Pleasantville, N. J., concerning the Small Business Administration	19	Letter accepting resignation of Clare Boothe Luce, Ambassador to Italy
5	Letter to Mrs. Rose Richards of Greenwich, Conn., on inflation	19	Letter accepting resignation of Robert C. Hendrickson, Ambassador to New Zealand
5	White House statement on the Government's program for disposing of surplus real property	19	Letter accepting resignation of Maxwell Abbell, Chairman, the President's Committee on Government Employment Policy
5	Remarks at the headquarters of the Republican National Committee	19	White House statement announcing Prime Minister Nehru's visit
5	Message to Nikolai Bulganin, Chairman, Council of Ministers, U. S. S. R., urging withdrawal of Soviet forces from Hungary	20	Letter accepting resignation of Roswell B. Perkins, Assistant Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare
5	Closed circuit television remarks to a group in Boston, Mass., on election eve	20	Letter accepting resignation of William H. Jackson, Special Assistant to the President
5	Radio and television remarks on election eve	20	White House statement concerning America's response to the needs of the people of Hungary
7	Radio and television remarks following the election victory	24	Letter to the Attorney General on maritime industry labor dispute
8	Message to Prime Minister Ben-Gurion urging withdrawal of Israeli forces in Egypt		

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25	White House statement on the President's Augusta trip plans	8	Memorandum authorizing expenditures to carry out the Hungarian refugee program
26	Remarks to a group of Hungarian refugees	8	White House statement concerning proposed foreign visits by the President's Citizen Advisers on the Mutual Security Program
26	Exchange of messages between the President and the Prime Minister of Thailand on the Middle East and Hungary	9	White House statement on report of the President's Committee on Migratory Labor
27	White House statement concerning conference with Secretary Dulles in preparation for NATO Council meeting	10	Statement by the President: Human Rights Day in the light of recent events in Hungary
28	Statement by the President on releasing report on the Salk vaccine	10	Letters to Chairmen, Senate Finance and House Ways and Means Committees, on tariff on groundfish fillets
29	Statement by the President in support of Red Cross appeal for relief in Hungary and to Hungarian refugees in Austria	10	Letter to the Special Assistant to the President for Coordination of Public Works Planning
29	Letter to Chairman, the President's Committee for Traffic Safety, on the highway modernization program	11	Letter to Chairman, U. S. Council of the International Chamber of Commerce, on membership in the Organization for Trade Cooperation
30	White House statement on the oil supply problem resulting from the closing of the Suez Canal	12	White House statement announcing establishment of the President's Committee for Hungarian Refugee Relief
<i>December</i>		12	White House statement concerning the Vice President's forthcoming trip to Austria on behalf of the Hungarian refugees
1	White House statement concerning admission of additional Hungarian refugees	14	Letter accepting resignation of Clarence A. Davis, Under Secretary of the Interior
2	Statement by the Secretary of State following conference with the President in preparation for NATO Council meeting	15	White House statement announcing United States contribution to the United Nations for assistance to Hungarian refugees
5	Letter accepting resignation of Carter L. Burgess, Assistant Secretary of Defense		
6	White House statement concerning the transportation of Hungarian refugees to the United States		

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15	Letter accepting resignation of Philip A. Ray, General Counsel, Department of Commerce	27	Letter accepting resignation of Winthrop W. Aldrich, Ambassador to Great Britain
15	Statement by the Secretary of State following his return from the NATO Council meeting	28	Statement by the President on highway safety during the holidays
16	Exchange of greetings between the Vice President and the Prime Minister of India	28	Citation accompanying the Distinguished Service Medal presented to General Gruenther
16	Remarks of welcome to the Prime Minister of India	29	Telegram to Governor Knight concerning fire disaster in Southern California
18	Message to Prime Minister Hatoyama on the occasion of Japan's entry into the United Nations	29	Letter to the Federal Civil Defense Administrator authorizing funds for disaster aid in Southern California
18	Letter accepting resignation of B. Frank Heintzleman, Governor of Alaska	31	White House statement concerning financial assistance for small business concerns working on Government contracts
20	Joint statement following discussions with the Prime Minister of India	31	White House statement following meeting with Republican leaders of the Senate and the House of Representatives
20	Letter to Thomas P. Pike, Special Assistant to the President, on his return to the Defense Department		
20	Remarks at the Pageant of Peace Ceremonies		

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Feb. 6	Letter: Trade Agreement; Carrying out the Protocol of Terms of Accession by Japan to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade . . .	829
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Foreign Service Retirement and Disability Fund for fiscal years ended June 30, 1954 and 1955	H. Doc. 295	Jan. 12
Public Law 480 (83d Cong.):			
Third Semiannual Report	H. Doc. 294	Jan. 12	Jan. 12
Fourth Semiannual Report	H. Doc. 447	July 11	July 11
Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corpora- tion—For the year ended June 30, 1955	H. Doc. 293	Jan. 12	Jan. 12
Effects of Malnutrition and other hardships on the Mortality and Morbidity of Former United States Prisoners of War and Civilian Internees of World War II: An Appraisal of Current Information	H. Doc. 296	Jan. 12	. . . . .
Water Resources Policy	H. Doc. 315	Jan. 17	Jan. 17
Commodity Credit Corporation		Jan. 19	. . . . .
National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics, Forty-First Annual Report	S. Doc. 90	Jan. 23	. . . . .
Economic Report of the President	H. Doc. 280	Jan. 24	Jan. 24
National Science Foundation, Fifth Annual Re- port	H. Doc. 319	Jan. 26	. . . . .
National Advisory Council on International Monetary and Financial Problems	H. Doc. 336 H. Doc. 430	Feb. 10 June 20	. . . . .. . . . .
Housing and Home Finance Agency, Eighth An- nual Report		Feb. 16	. . . . .
United States Civil Service Commission	H. Doc. 253	Mar. 15	. . . . .
Tin-Smelting Industry "A Study on the Feasibil- ity of Maintaining a Permanent Domestic Tin- Smelting Industry in the United States"	H. Doc. 371	Mar. 29 (S)	Mar. 29
National Capital Housing Authority		Apr. 9	. . . . .
Operation of the Uniformed Services Contin- gency Option Act of 1953, First Annual Re- port		Apr. 9	. . . . .
Railroad Retirement Board	H. Doc. 268	Apr. 19	. . . . .
Report Concerning the Nation's Rubber Re- quirements and Resources	H. Doc. 391	Apr. 30

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<i>Subject</i>	<i>Published</i>	<i>Sent to the Congress</i>	<i>Date of White House release</i>
Mutual Security Program	H. Doc. 369	May 7
	H. Doc. 481	Sept. 24	. . . .
Office of Alien Property		June 20	. . . .
Lend-Lease Operations, Thirty-Seventh Report to Congress	H. Doc. 413	July 18	. . . .
United States Participation in the United Nations	H. Doc. 455	July 19	July 19
Corregidor Bataan Memorial Commission . . .	H. Doc. 461	July 27	. . . .
Mutual Security Act, Assistance to Yugoslavia		Oct. 15	Oct. 16

Appendix D

Appendix D—Rules Governing This Publication

[Reprinted from the Federal Register, vol. 22, p. 8895, dated November 6, 1957]

TITLE I—GENERAL PROVISIONS

Chapter I—Administrative Committee of the Federal Register

PART 4—PUBLIC PAPERS OF THE PRESIDENTS OF THE UNITED STATES

Effective upon publication in the FEDERAL REGISTER, Chapter I of Title 1, Code of Federal Regulations, is amended by adding a new Part 4 to read as follows:

PUBLICATION AND FORMAT

Sec.

- 4.1 Publication required.
- 4.2 Coverage of prior years.
- 4.3 Format, indexes, ancillaries.

SCOPE

- 4.10 Basic criteria.
- 4.11 Sources.

FREE DISTRIBUTION

- 4.15 Members of Congress.
- 4.16 The Supreme Court.
- 4.17 Executive agencies.

PAID DISTRIBUTION

- 4.20 Agency requisitions.
- 4.21 Extra copies.
- 4.22 Sale to public.

AUTHORITY: §§ 4.1 to 4.22 issued under sec. 6, 49 Stat. 501, as amended; 44 U. S. C. 306.

PUBLICATION AND FORMAT

§ 4.1 *Publication required.* There shall be published forthwith at the end of each calendar year, beginning with the

year 1957, a special edition of the FEDERAL REGISTER designated "Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States." Each volume shall cover one calendar year and shall be identified further by the name of the President and the year covered.

§ 4.2 *Coverage of prior years.* After conferring with the National Historical Publications Commission with respect to the need therefor, the Administrative Committee may from time to time authorize the publication of similar volumes covering specified calendar years prior to 1957.

§ 4.3 *Format, indexes, ancillaries.* Each annual volume, divided into books in any case deemed desirable, shall be separately published in the binding and style deemed by the Administrative Committee to be suitable to the dignity of the office of President of the United States. Each volume shall be appropriately indexed and shall contain appropriate ancillary information respecting significant Presidential documents not published in full text.

SCOPE

§ 4.10 *Basic criteria.* The basic text of the volumes shall consist of oral utterances by the President or of writings subscribed by him. All materials selected for inclusion under these criteria must also be in the public domain by virtue of White House press release or otherwise.

Appendix D

§ 4.11 *Sources.* (a) The basic text of the volumes shall be selected from the official text of: (1) Communications to the Congress, (2) public addresses, (3) transcripts of press conferences, (4) public letters, (5) messages to heads of state, (6) statements released on miscellaneous subjects, and (7) formal executive documents promulgated in accordance with law.

(b) Ancillary text, notes, and tables shall be derived from official sources only.

FREE DISTRIBUTION

§ 4.15 *Members of Congress.* Each Member of Congress shall be entitled to one copy of each annual volume upon application therefor in writing to the Director.

§ 4.16 *The Supreme Court.* The Supreme Court of the United States shall be entitled to twelve copies of the annual volumes.

§ 4.17 *Executive agencies.* The head of each Department and the head of each independent agency in the Executive Branch shall be entitled to one copy of each annual volume upon application therefor in writing to the Director.

PAID DISTRIBUTION

§ 4.20 *Agency requisitions.* Each Federal agency shall be entitled to obtain

at cost copies of the annual volumes for official use upon the timely submission to the Government Printing Office of a proper printing and binding requisition.

§ 4.21 *Extra copies.* All requests for extra copies of the annual volumes shall be addressed to the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D. C. Extra copies shall be paid for by the agency or official requesting them.

§ 4.22 *Sale to public.* The annual volumes shall be placed on sale to the public by the Superintendent of Documents at a price to be determined by the Administrative Committee.

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE OF THE FEDERAL REGISTER,

By: WAYNE C. GROVER,
Chairman.

Approved:

HERBERT BROWNELL, Jr.,
Attorney General.

FRANKLIN G. FLOETE,
Administrator of General Services.

[F. R. Doc. 57-9283; Filed, Nov. 5, 1957;
9:43 a. m.]

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